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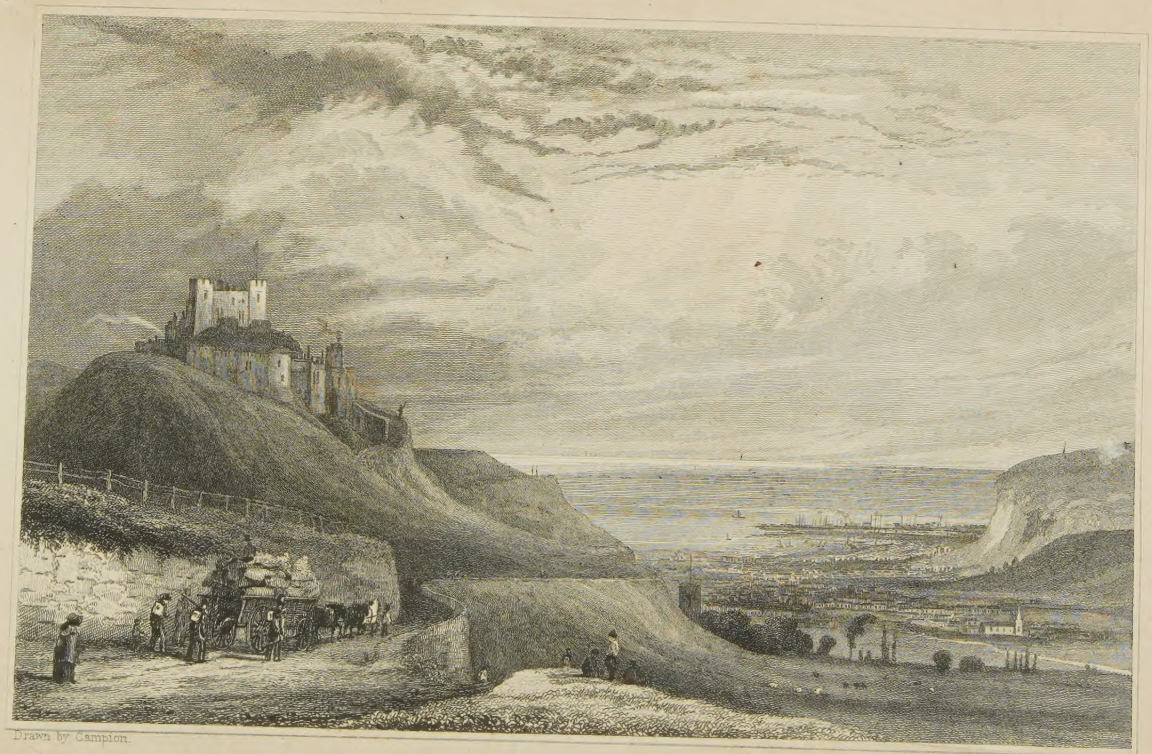

Drawn by Campion.

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DOVOR CASTLE.
KENT.

A

NEW AND COMPLETE

HISTORY

OF THE

COUNTY OF KENT;

EMBELLISHED WITH A SERIES OF VIEWS,

From Original Drawings,

BY G. SHEPHERD, H. GASTINEAU, &c. &c.

WITH

HISTORICAL, TOPOGRAPHICAL, CRITICAL, AND BIOGRAPHICAL DELINEATIONS.

BY W. H. IRELAND,

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THE

HISTORY OF THE COUNTY OF KENT,

&c. &c.

THE TOWN, CASTLE, AND PORT OF DOVER.

At the eastern extremity of Kent, adjoining the sea, stands the town of Dover, where the great high road conducting towards France terminates. It adjoins the parish of Charlton, eastward, in the lath of St. Augustine, and eastern division of this county; being within the liberty of the Cinque Ports, and the jurisdiction of the corporation of the town and port of Dover.

This place, written in the Latin Itinerary of Antoninus, *Dubris;* by the Saxons, *Dorfa* and *Dofris;* by later historians, *Doveria;* and, in the Domesday record, *Dovere:* most probably derived its name from the British words, *Dufir*, signifying water, or *Dufirrha*, high and steep; in allusion to the cliffs whereby it is completely surrounded, with the exception of that part facing the sea.

Dover stands at the extremity of a wide and spacious valley, enclosed on either side by lofty and steep hills, or cliffs; and, making allowance for the retiring of the sea from between them, corresponds with the description given by Cæsar in his Commentaries. In the middle space between this chain of eminences, in an opening, lies *the Town of Dover, and its Harbour*, which latter, previous to the sea being shut out, as late as the Norman conquest, was situated much more inland than at present, as will be further exemplified.

Close to the north side of the town and harbour, on the summit of one of these stupendous cliffs, rises the celebrated castle of

Dover, so renowned in the annals of Britain from its earliest records, for a succession of ages. The altitude of this structure is so great, as to be generally perceptible from the lowest lands on the French coast, and as far beyond as the eye can discern. Its dimensions, for it comprises within the area thirty-five acres of ground, whereof six are occupied by the ancient buildings, give the whole an appearance of a small city, with the citadel in its centre, and extensive fortifications encompassing its walls. The cliff or rock whereon it stands, is rugged and steep towards the town and harbour, but, in the direction of the sea, it displays a stupendous perpendicular precipice, upwards of 320 feet high, from the summit to the shore.

Whether Dover was first occupied by the Gauls, from the continent, or that the original settlers were of a more ancient origin, is an event buried in complete uncertainty. If we adopt the opinion, as probable, that some wandering tribes escaped from a disastrous struggle of unequal warfare, sought a resting place on this island; they would find at Dover, as it then existed, a most desirable retreat. Here, for instance, we may presume, they found a deep and secure bay for their vessels; a coast well covered with wood; and a fruitful valley abundantly supplied with water. Historical records, however, have handed down no certain information on this subject, until the expedition of Julius Cæsar, in the middle of the century preceding the Christian æra; at which period, on his attaining the coast, he found a numerous band of warriors marshalled on the cliffs to oppose his landing. The position taken by the Britons, and their formidable appearance, induced Cæsar to adopt the prudent resolution of hazarding his attempt at a place more easy of access, and less powerfully defended. The probability of the first settlers here having arrived from a more distant country than Gaul, is strengthened, owing to the surprise expressed by Cæsar, on observing their mode of warfare with chariots, which he remarks, "possessed the swiftness of horse, and the stability of foot."

This mode not having been practised by the Germans or Gauls, it has puzzled antiquarian writers to conceive whence a rude people, having advanced no further in arts than to discover the mode of forming their boats of osiers, and covering them with raw hides of animals, could have acquired this art of managing

their war chariots. The only probable conjecture therefore is, that they may have been of Phœnician origin, derived from Judea; or, if the first settlers in Kent were of northern original, their leader might have introduced this practice.

The summit of the Castle hill at Dover, is formed by nature for a place of defence; the upper part may be considered a species of peninsula, as a deep valley exists on the south-west, and another to the north-east.

At the time of Cæsar's first arrival, the waves washed the foot of the perpendicular cliff fronting the sea, being, as previously remarked, about 320 feet above the level of low water mark.

The most extensive and remarkable fortifications remaining on this elevated situation, are very far from being of equal antiquity; and the monkish legend of Julius Cæsar having built a fortress here, is totally void of foundation. Some time previous to the 49th year of the Christian æra, Publius Ostorius Scapula, a Roman officer of consular dignity, built several forts in Britain, and this is said to be the first historical notice of Roman masonry in the kingdom, from which period we may date the commencement of Roman works as having existed on the Castle hill of Dover. The earliest fortification here was of no great dimension, but the groundwork and remaining ruins point out the hand of the Roman engineer and architect.

The area occupied an enclosure of about 400 feet in length, and 140 feet in its greatest width; which small fortress constituted the whole work of the Romans at this place, and it would be a loss of labour to search for any other within the walls of this castle. The Romans having determined on the conquest of Britain, incessantly crossed and recrossed the channel; and, as the mariners had frequently to approach the shore during the night, a pharos or lighthouse, near a commodious bay, of course became most essential. Being, therefore, of such importance, as regarded the safety of land forces, and merchants following this expedition, a structure of this description, we may naturally conjecture, was built within the fortress of Dover castle, upon a similar plan with that at Boulogne. It is a singular fact, which has for ages escaped the prying eye of the antiquary, that the Roman masons built these walls with a stalactical concretion, instead of stone. It was formed under water, and they cut it into small blocks, about a foot in length, and seven inches in

depth; but they were not all of equal dimensions. The walls are raised alternately by seven courses of these stalactical blocks, as well as two courses of tiles; the durability of the materials, and the workmanship, seeming to bid defiance to the hand of time: as, during upwards of seventeen centuries and a half, there is no visible decay in the archway over the passage. On comparing this building with the edifice at Boulogne, it is found that both were constructed upon the same plan, and of similar materials.

This fortress at Dover may therefore be reasonably esteemed as one of the oldest remnants of masonry now remaining in the kingdom, and probably one of the first erected in Britain by the Romans. The use of the tophus, in building, was well known to the Greeks, Romans, and Egyptians, having been worked in the partition walls of many of their grandest edifices.

From the time of Cæsar to the reign of Dioclesian, northern adventurers uniformly infested the narrow seas, plundering on either side of the channel. To remedy this serious evil, which had been before partially attempted, Constantine the Great despatched several military officers, called Counts, known also by the title of *Comites Augustales*, being attendants at court, and companions of the emperor. Some of those dignitaries were commanders of provinces, others, governors of forts; one of whom was deputed to reside in Britain, whose ships and fortresses guarded the extent of coast from Denmark to Gaul; which line of territory was called the *Saxon shore*. The ensign of the counts of the Saxon shore represented an island having nine towns, the same being delineated on the cover of a book, which contained his instructions; of which nine towns, or stations, six at least are known to have existed in Kent. These arrangements proved effective in protecting the coast, till the time of Theodosius, father of Theodosius the Great, who then found it necessary, in 364, to strengthen those garrisons; between which time and 367, the first cohort was stationed at Dover, being upwards of 1100 strong, ranking conspicuous for valour and fidelity; claiming the highest post of honour, and the custody of the Imperial Eagle. While occupying this station, the Romans built a bath, near the stream of fresh water, in the valley, the foundations of which were discovered on the

site of St. Mary's church, where might be distinctly traced the ground-floors of four apartments, &c.

But, to return to the castle, as being of Roman origin: the foundations of the pharos or watchtower, previously mentioned, as built by Aulus Plautius and Publius Ostorius Scapula, are laid in a bed of clay, a usual practice with the Roman masons, and considered a criterion of their labours. The exterior shape is octagon, and the interior a square, the sides being each about fourteen feet in length, and the thickness of the walls, to the first floor, ten feet. Lapse of time has so materially impaired this structure, that it is impossible to determine its original height, which is now about forty feet.

The tiles are of the usual dimensions, and many of them cast in a peculiar mould, having grooves and projections corresponding with, and falling into each other, like a half dovetail, whereby they were rendered close and compact, similar to those which we observed in the celebrated Roman wall, on descending from Dym church to Romney marsh. Although we are in possession of no evidence that either the Romans or Saxons had recourse to this tower as a fortification, it was unquestionably applied to a defensive purpose by the Normans. The introduction of their architecture, in effecting the necessary alterations, materially conduced to its present appearance, as the masonry on either side of the apertures, internally, greatly differs from the original style; while the openings at the base are considerably wider than those at the summit. These apertures, formerly intended to admit light, were subsequently converted into loop-holes, and the outward arches contracted to a narrow slip, the ascent to which was by steps cut in the wall. The arch over the original entrance, about six feet wide, is still perfect, as before remarked, while the ruinous state of the other arches is owing to the idle curiosity of those who have detached fragments of the composition, in order to ascertain its solidity.

Mr. Lyon states that this structure was repaired and cased with flint in 1259; which covering is now falling to decay in several places, the original masonry being thereby exposed anew to the corroding influence of the elements.

A peal of bells was hung within this structure, when useless as a place of defence, which, through the influence of Sir George Rooke, were afterwards removed to Portsmouth, that borough

having returned him its member to sit in the House of Commons.

Subsequent to the above period, the board of ordnance disposed of the lead which covered this ancient structure; thus leaving one of the first specimens of Roman architecture in this island, to moulder away, being exposed to the violence of every wintery tempest.

The body and tower of the church now constitute the only remaining buildings within the area of the Roman fortification; and, although of a more recent date than the pharos above described, they still retain decisive marks of their ancient workmanship.

Some historical records attribute the origin of this church to Lucius, a British king by Roman courtesy, his dominions having extended over the eastern parts of Kent, and who was converted to Christianity A.D. 172.

Whatsoever credibility we may attach to this legend, it may not be irrelevant to inquire whether the Britons were, at the period alluded to, sufficiently acquainted with architecture, to have designed a work of this description. Their intercourse with the Romans had then subsisted upwards of two centuries, and many of their chiefs had visited Rome and foreign countries, while numbers of their youth were incorporated in the Roman armies, and had served abroad. By those means they had unquestionably an opportunity of acquiring such a knowledge of the arts, as was requisite for the accomplishment of an undertaking of this description. Roman tiles appear in every part of this building, while a mere casual survey might lead an observer to conceive that no regularity had been pursued in the construction. The result, however, of an attentive observation will demonstrate that, in whatever age the masonry was raised, one uniform design was strictly adhered to, although there are certainly no means of positively deciding, whether the production was the labour of a British, Roman, or Saxon artificer.

This church is in the form of a cross; the tower being supported by four lofty arches, the pilasters on the north and south sides consisting of squared stone, with a bead embracing the front of an elliptic arch. The work in question is modern compared with the other two arches, which, including their pilasters, are formed of tiles after the method of the Romans. The sides

of the tower are square, each measuring twenty-eight feet, the extent of the body of the building being sixty feet.

Few places of worship have undergone such signal alterations as this under review. The first roof was flat, on the decay of which, another was raised much more lofty, and larger windows, higher up, were constructed in the body of the church. A third roof, more elevated than the first, and horizontal than the second, was then constructed, their respective heights being still apparent from the several marks remaining on the south-west side of the turret.

The triple columns in the angles of the tower, and the voussures extending from their capitals, denote that part of the work as having been added since the introduction of Gothic architecture into Britain. Though early writers affect to trace the origin of that style of building to the remotest ages of Christianity, yet the numerous modes of architecture observable in various ruins, involve the period of its foundation in considerable obscurity ; neither is this state of uncertainty removed, until the arrival of St. Augustine in Britain, A.D. 596.

Gregory, then Roman pontiff, having made inquiry respecting the state of religion in this island, became desirous of converting the inhabitants from idolatry, and disseminating among them the blessings of Christianity. For that purpose he despatched hither one of his monks, named Augustine, who, after several conferences with King Ethelbert, the latter was induced to receive his doctrine, and embrace the faith ; when, in return for the spiritual favors conferred, and admiring the prelate's unaffected zeal, that prince granted permission for Augustine and his attendants to remain in the kingdom, assigning them the church within Dover castle, for the celebration of the offices of religion. It was reconsecrated therefore, and dedicated, by Augustine, to the Virgin Mary, mass having been publicly performed therein.

Eadbald, succeeding his father, relapsed to paganism ; but being converted, as an atonement for his sin, founded a college in this castle for twenty-four ecclesiastics, which he annexed to the church. The canons retained possession here until 696, when Withred, king of Kent, having decided that religious pursuits should be unconnected with the profession of arms, erected a fabric for those ecclesiastics in the town, removing them with

all their immunities from the castle. The college of Eadbald, was, apparently, constructed of less durable materials than those of the church or pharos, or only raised for temporary purposes, as not a vestige now remains to designate its site, or the design of the architect.

Three chaplains, wearing the prebendal costume in virtue of the honour and antiquity of this institution, formerly belonged to the church, each being obliged to rise in turn at an appointed time, to chant the matins privately, prior to their performance of service in the chapel. The first chaplain said mass to the governor at the high altar; the second, to the marshalmen and officers, at ten o'clock, at the altar of the Virgin Mary; and the third, to the soldiers, at nine, before the altar of relics. If the priests were desirous to absent themselves from the castle, leave was accorded, on condition that they should be present at high mass; but they were prohibited from any nonattendance that might cause neglect of duty, and never suffered to interfere with each other's avocations, &c.

After the reformation, these three chaplains were reduced to one, who continued to officiate for the garrison and inmates of the castle, until 1690; when the service was discontinued, the salary, however, being paid.

Within the walls of this church, are the relics of several distinguished characters, among whom may be particularized the following: in that part where stood the grand altar, are the remains of Sir Robert Asheton, who held the office of chamberlain under Edward III. the stone containing his effigy, with the inscription and the grooves of the brasswork, having continued till within a few years, but are now entirely demolished. It was the above personage who presented the great bell to this church. Beside Lord Robert, is inhumed his lieutenant, Sir Richard Malmains, but no gravestone is now left. Henry Howard, earl of Northampton, and lord warden of the Cinque Ports, in the time of James I. was inhumed, in 1614, on the right hand side of the south chapel, to whose memory a monument was erected by Stone, the famous statuary, which cost £500. His body and tomb were removed to the chapel belonging to the hospital of East Greenwich, in this county, in 1696, on account of the ruinous state of this pile. To the above may be added the names of John Copeldike, lieutenant of the castle under

Henry VIII. whose monument has disappeared; of William Crispe, who occupied the same post, and died in 1576; and of Sir James Wake, A. D. 1632; beside whom, in the wills registered in the prerogative-office of Canterbury, mention is made of many other persons of note interred here.

A plot of ground south of the ruins of the church, was appropriated for the interment of the garrison soldiers; and another piece of ground, north of the castle, without the walls, has lately been consecrated as a place of burial, which is occasionally used by the garrison for that purpose.

A well formerly existed within this fortress, now nearly filled up with rubbish, and the summit covered by an arch.

When the Romans were forced to withdraw their legions to check the progress of the northern barbarians, the natives of Britain, being disunited, became an easy prey to the Picts and Scots, as fully explained in the early part of the present History, who took advantage of the departure of their late protectors, to make inroads and subjugate this island.

The Saxons, having acquired possession of Kent, were too well aware of the utility of beacons, or watchtowers, to destroy the Roman works previously described. It seems that they extended the groundwork, by adding to the original fortress all the spare land capable of being levelled with the same. Those additions, of that rude and barbarous age, were, nevertheless, designed with judgment, and well adapted to the limited space which they were intended to occupy. The fortress built by the first Saxons, differed materially from that raised by the Romans, only consisting of perpendicular sides, having no parapets, and surrounded by deep moats. Their main object was to secure the groundwork, wholly regardless of accommodations for residence. In the year 1800, one of the Saxon excavations, nine feet wide by fifty in length, was discovered leading under the Roman work.

The interior of the Saxon fortress, called the keep, was on a line with the edge of the perpendicular ditch, and elevated twenty feet above the surrounding vallum. The keep was constructed with the chalk dug out of the interior ditch, and the vallum levelled with what was cast from that of the exterior moat.

The narrow ridge of the eminence on the north-west side of this fortress, was its weakest point; and the works were obvi-

ously constructed to protect the entrance into the Roman fortress by affording accommodation for a numerous troop to use their arms when called upon to defend the pass in question.

South-west of the Roman fortress, on the exterior bank, stood the original entrance into the Saxon fortification. This bank was cut away so as to form a narrow path, at the point where the ascent of the hill is most difficult, by means of a recess excavated in the rock, the forcing which passage would have been hazardous in the extreme, if attempted by a besieging army: for a centinel, being driven from the first, might retreat to a second, and a third post, and thence annoy his assailants ere they could gain possession of the fortress.

Previous to the accession of Alfred the Great, in 872, the Danes had spread desolation over the British territory, wherefore, to secure the coast from their inroads, that magnanimous chief fortified his towns and castles with walls and towers; at which period, this fortress must have been deemed of the highest importance.

The devastating hand of time having destroyed the perpendicular sides of the ditches, cut in the chalk rock, and that part of the fortress being defenceless; in order to remedy such defect, and render that important post impregnable, the original ground plan, extending to the north-west of the Roman fort, was environed with masonry. The passes conducting to the keep, the vallum, and the Roman works, were defended by gates and turrets, as well as a fortified bridge thrown over each of the ditches. Several other towers were also built at irregular distances on the wall, in describing which, we shall commence with that called

Godwin's Tower, deriving its name from the famous Earl of Kent, appointed to that dignity about the year 1057, under Edward the Confessor, part of the revenues of Dover being also assigned to him, on becoming guardian of the Cinque Ports. The manor of Goodnestone was in like manner presented to him, by that prince, under the proviso that additional works should be erected in this castle, at his proper cost. That earl, in consequence, extended the entrance into the Roman fortress, by removing the ancient ramparts between the gates called

Colton and Arthur. On the opposite side he formed a vallum over the Roman ditch, and raised the wall, within the parapet, from the angle contiguous to Colton gate, round the ancient Roman works, continuing the same across his new vallum, to a gateway adjoining the wall, wherein he erected this tower, called after him.

The structure alluded to stood in the centre of the wall, between the new gateway and the first angle of the Saxon works. Beneath was a sallyport for cavalry, which had a communication with the interior of the fortress. When this castle sustained a siege by the Dauphin of France, at the time of King John, it was through this sallyport Stephen Pincester entered, with 400 horse, for the relief of Hubert de Burgh, who was thereby enabled to compel his enemies to raise the siege.

Subsequent to the Norman conquest, chambers were constructed over the passage to the sallyport, for the reception of the king's wardrobe, when he thought fit to visit the castle, as well as for the residence of his retinue. Those buildings, however, have long been destroyed, the passage being now choked with the rubbish, and the gate entirely filled up. On the exterior of the Norman wall, the arch leading to the subterranean pass is still apparent, but all traces of the old fortifications are annihilated, the line of works uniting the Roman and Saxon plans being equally rased.

Clinton Tower. On the exterior bank of the Roman trench, previous to the various additions made at the close of the reign of the Conqueror, stood three towers; one intended for the defence of Colton gate, and a second to guard the entrance to Godwin's tower; the third, called Clinton's tower, was constructed near the vallum previously made by Godwin, across the ditch. This tower was square, but how long it served as an object of defence, or when destroyed, we cannot certify. Indeed, the site of this tower was not positively ascertained, until some workmen, in 1794, discovered the last remains of the foundation, while employed in sinking the ground for the construction of a new road.

Jeffery Clinton, who had the command of this tower, is conjectured by some to have derived his surname from Clinton, in Oxfordshire; while another writer makes him a descendant of

Wevia, sister of Gunora, a Norman duchess; whereas, a third historian and contemporary, asserts that he was elevated to dignity through the royal favor, from an obscure origin. His profession was that of a soldier; and among other honourable and lucrative trusts, he was chamberlain and treasurer to Henry I. as well as Lord Chief Justice of England.

Valence Tower. This structure was circular, standing on the south-east side of the Roman fortress, and obtained the above appellation from William Valence, formerly commander of this post. He was son of Hugh le Brun, by his wife Isabella, widow of King John, having derived his surname from the place of his nativity in France. Being nearly allied to Henry III. he was invited to England, constituted governor of Goderick castle, knighted, and, among other proofs of royal consideration, obtained a grant of the castle and honour of Hartford. This nobleman was ultimately slain at the battle of Bayonne, when a magnificent monument was erected to his memory in Westminster abbey.

In very remote times this fabric was applied to the purpose of grinding corn for the support of the garrison, and thence called Mill tower; it was at length destroyed during the American war. In the bank of the Roman fortress, adjoining the site of this structure, is a casemate, bomb proof.

Mortimer's Tower. This erection, of a quadrangular form, was raised to guard the entrance through Colton gate, part of the foundation, sunk several feet in the solid rock, being still in existence underground. Contiguous to Colton gate, in one of the angles of the wall, a stone door-frame is visible, which probably led, through a subterranean passage, to the works of Saxon origin.

Ralph de Mortimer, commander of this tower, was the son of Roger de Mortimer, allied to the Conqueror, having had a command in his army prior to his invasion of England. Edric, earl of Shrewsbury, who refused to submit to the Norman despot, was overthrown by Mortimer, who, as a reward for bravery and services, was inducted to the earl's forfeited lands, and castle of Wigmore, which subsequently became his place of residence.

Colton Gate, and Square Tower, were raised over the original entrance of the Saxon work, and underwent alterations after the Norman conquest. The charge of these structures was then confided to Fulbert de Dover, who nominated an officer to keep guard, and gave lands for that purpose in his lordship of Chilham. Under Edward III. Lord Burgherst had the command of this tower, whose armorial bearings still remain in front, on a stone shield. In 1772, a portion of the wall surrounding the Roman fortress, and whereby it was connected with this tower, was taken down.

The college of the original canons was, according to tradition, situated in this quadrangle, and enclosed by a wall from Colton to Harcourt towers.

Harcourt Tower. This building was constructed over a passage enclosed by two parallel walls, conducting from Peverell's tower. The sides were supported by arches, opening a way to the subterranean gate, whence a flight of steps led to the gate of Suffolk's tower. Through loopholes in the wall of the caponnierre, the archers commanded the vallum in front of the governor's apartments, as well as the side of the hill towards the town and cliff.

Harcourt tower, the subterranean gate, together with the wall that connected them to Well tower, are completely destroyed, every trace of the foundations having been obliterated in 1797.

This tower derived its name either from the manor of Harcourt, in Oxfordshire, appropriated for the maintenance of a ward here, by the Conqueror, or from William de Harcourt, appointed commander by Robert de Arsick, whose father had accompanied the despot to England.

Well Tower and Gate. The name of this edifice was derived from a well which it contained, being about 380 feet deep, the period of the construction of which is, however, involved in uncertainty. This most necessary appendage, however, not being within the area of the Roman fortress, does not lay claim to such high antiquity. In addition to this, and the well in the Roman fortifications, together with that which we shall notice in describing the keep, there is a fourth near Colton gate, now generally used by the garrison. In 1800 it was secured by a

work of bomb-proof masonry. Besides the above, other wells have been discovered in various parts of this celebrated structure.

The Armorer's Tower. All weapons for the use of this garrison, were manufactured and repaired in the edifice now under review. When alterations were made in this part of the castle, during the years 1795 and 1796, this tower was rased to its foundation

King Arthur's, or North Gate. This portal conducted through the area before Palace gate, into the Roman fortress. There was also a passage to the Roman works and Godwin's sallyport, which passed between two parallel walls. All the connecting portions of the original works are demolished, and most of the Roman fortress is levelled with the quadrangle.

The Duke of Suffolk's Tower, and Palace Gate. The entrance to the Saxon keep, at this gate, in front of the Roman camp, had once a portcullis ; the grooves still remaining in the stonework. It was formerly called Palace gate, as conducting to the state apartments, now the keep. Some historirns have conjectured that it was also called the Subterranean gate, owing to a concealed passage leading thence to Peverell's tower: Mr. Lyon, however, affirms, that the gate alluded to is wholly destroyed.

Suffolk Tower was formerly a recess in the wall, until converted to a stately mansion, by Edward IV. for the reception of his brother-in-law, the Duke of Suffolk. The father of this nobleman, having been accused of treason, in endeavouring to quit the kingdom, was beheaded, by a common seaman, in Dover Roads. After a mock trial, the sailors compelled him to lay his head over the side of the vessel, and, with a rusty sword, then severed it from his body, which was afterwards conveyed to shore, and laid upon the beach. It has been reported, that the head was placed on a pole near the corpse, which was transported to the collegiate church of Wingfield, in Suffolk, and there interred in the chancel. What became of the head appears uncertain ; however, some few years since, in sinking ground for a cellar, near the Antwerp Inn, a scull was found, enclosed in a stone deposi-

tory, and, this ground having formerly belonged to St. Martin's church, it was conjectured the head in question was that of the duke, who had been interred here.

The Old Arsenal. This tower, from a remote period, had been a depository for the various arms and machines used in defending the castle. Tradition had assigned to them a Roman origin; but Darell, who examined and admired their workmanship, attributed them to the reigns of King John, or Henry III.

The King's Kitchen and Offices. The chambers of which we now speak were most probably fitted up in the time of Edward I. who frequently sojourned at this castle. They formerly occupied the entire space between the old magazine, and the eastern angle of the Saxon keep; on the site of which buildings barracks were constructed in 1745.

King Arthur's Hall. No certain record existing in regard to this building, any opinion respecting its foundation being laid by King Arthur, would be superfluous. It was situated on the north-eastern side of the keep, in front of three towers, the site being at present occupied by a messroom, kitchen, and barracks.

The King's Gate and Bridge. This portal was defended by a strong outwork, enclosing a small area before the great gates, whereof some ruins still remain. It does not appear that there was any portcullis at the outer gate, and it is therefore probable a drawbridge only secured that passage. The inner gates, however, opening from the area into the keep, were not only defended with a portcullis, but a tower on either side, whence the archers were empowered to defend the whole extent of the vallum.

The Towers *on the south-west side of the Keep, called* Magminot's Towers. These were probably used by the officer so named, when marshall of this fortress, for archers; the lands, however, which he held, were for erecting and guarding towers situated in the exterior walls.

Gore's Tower. Under Henry VIII. this building, situated within the curtain, was called Gore's tower, whereof we have no further record.

The Lesser Hall of King Arthur, or Guaonobour's Chamber. This building was anciently called Arthur's Private Hall, or his Queen's Bedchamber, and is placed between Gore's tower and Palace gate. Henry VIII. while residing in the castle with Anna Boleyn, made this a storeroom for his provisions.

The Keep. This is unquestionably the principal building in Dover castle; and so called from occupying the centre of the quadrangle previously mentioned, and distinguished by the Saxons under the above title. It comprises a large and massy square edifice, the sides varying from 103 to 123 feet; being so elevated, that, from every point, the eye naturally turns towards it as the chief point whence a besieging army might be assailed, and afford a strong hold for the besieged.

The northern turret of the keep is about ninety-five feet above the ground, and 373 feet above the level of the sea. The view hence is grand beyond conception, including the North Foreland, Ramsgate pier, the Isle of Thanet, Reculver church, Sandwich, and the intermediate country; together with the town of Calais, and the French coast from Boulogne as far as Gravelines.*

The foundation of this tower, generally twenty-four feet thick, and in some parts considerably wider, was laid about the year

* The following account of the fine prospect of Dover, is extracted from the work of Wm. Gostling, p. 361.

"From St. Margaret's bay, a steep road, cut by hand, brings the traveller to the summit of the hill, near the uppermost of the two lighthouses at the South Foreland, and so to the other more common as well as much shorter way from Deal, which town I should be for leaving time enough to have at least four hours of daylight before us; then, if the weather favors, as we come to the heights about Dover castle, we shall have a fair prospect of the French coast to a great length; and the chalky cliffs between Calais and Boulogne make a beautiful part of it, when the sun shines bright upon them from the westward.

When we come pretty near Dover castle, we enter a short hollow way cut

1153, by Henry, son of Henry I. not long before he ascended the throne, on arriving from Normandy, to the relief of Wallingford castle. In the construction of this fortress, the architect has followed the plan of Gundulph, bishop of Rochester, and having been erected in turbulent times, when refinement was little studied, we should not feel surprised that convenience was less consulted, than strength and safety. This building comprises a solid mass of masonry, with cavities in different parts; a few rooms and passages being separated by thick walls, while those are enclosed by walls still thicker. The only avenues for the admission of light and air, were long loopholes, very narrow on the outside, but gradually encreasing in width as entering deeper into the wall. Some of these apertures are constructed in a peculiar manner, the opening withinside being about eight feet wide, and very lofty. The bottom presents a flight of steps, the sides gradually approximating to each other, and terminating in a circular arch; thus the chasm was contracted, so that the opening at the exterior surface appeared only a narrow slip. Thence the archers, on ascending the steps, were enabled to take their aim at the enemy in the quadrangle below, who could neither see their assailants, nor return their attacks with any prospect of success; as, independent of the difficulty of attaining the loophole, even then the arrow in its flight could only strike the arched roof of the window, without injury to the person within.

The keep consists of three stories, communicating with each

through a bank of chalk, where I always advise those, who travel in carriages, to get out of them, and walk before the horses; for, presently after we are in this cut, we have a change of scene almost as sudden, and more surprising than any at the theatres; and find ourselves (after having travelled some miles in a bleak and naked country,) on the brink of a hill so high and so steep, as without this precaution, appears quite shocking to many; and see under us a beautiful valley, thick set with villages and their churches; the banks of a swift stream, which, after turning several mills, empties itself into the sea at Dover harbour; of all these we have, what in pictures is called a birdeye view, with a background of such high and barren mountains as we have just left behind us.

This pleasure is lost to those who begin their tour at Dover. In rising to the castle, they turn their backs to this delightful variety, and see before them the whole extent of country through which they are to travel with little variation, except that of gradually bringing the eye nearer to the objects which it has before seen at a distance."

other by means of circular staircases, in the north and south angles. The ancient entrance was by a flight of steps, parallel to the south-east side of the building. The entrance, about fourteen feet above the quadrangle, led to a noble vestibule, ascending on the north-east side, and opening into the second story, contiguous to the north angle. In those outer steps and vestibules, the military architects of that feudal age exerted all their skill; so that, formerly, a drawbridge, gate, and portcullis, with concealed passages in the wall, defended this important pass.

This building, owing to the changes adopted in warfare, has undergone great alterations, and therefore does not, in the present day, present such a gloomy aspect. The loopholes are now widened into windows, so that light and air cheer and refresh this once sombre fortress.

In the centre of the ground floor is a space of fifty feet square, divided by a partition wall containing three arches. Herein the stores were deposited, and thence was a communication with the stairs in the angle of the tower. Two loopholes, on the north-west side, commanded the quadrangle and the entrance from King's gate; and two others, the space between Palace gate and the stairs leading to the vestibule. To the south-west was a passage fifty-two feet long, by twelve feet wide, which was of late years used as a magazine. Near the east angle are two rooms, one thirty, and the other thirty-eight feet long; in each of which was a small aperture in the wall, for the admission of light and air, having been formerly used as prisons.

The strongly guarded vestibule previously mentioned, led to the second story, being divided by a wall into two sections, nearly equal, with two large rooms in the centre, on either side. These were intended for defence, and had each a window to the north-west. Ascending the vestibule, on the right, and in the centre of the north-east side, is a small room intended for the defence of the passage. This was appropriated to the knight or officer on guard, when the king, or any person of distinction, resided in the keep, or in the event of a siege. Fronting this guardroom was a chapel, richly ornamented with arches in the Saxon style, still in excellent preservation. This was intended for the use of the king, or, during his absence, appropriated for that of the governor.

A grand flight of steps conducting from the eastern part of this second story, to the royal apartments on the third, was strongly defended; and, at the foot of the staircase was a large archway formed to receive a gate. In the event of an enemy forcing that portal, there was another still higher up, defended by a portcullis. In the walls on either side of the staircase, and upon the landing-places, were concealed galleries for the archers; who, although invisible to the assailants, were empowered to make dreadful havoc among their enemies. The stairs on the south side, communicating from this story to that beneath, have long been closed up. In the wall, on the south-west side, are two spacious galleries, having an enlarged window between them. There are also recesses in the galleries, and in one is a fireplace; the workmanship, however, appearing as late as the time of Elizabeth. It seems probable that the original design of these was to convey from one story to another, within this tower, the beams for the catapult, and other warlike engines, rather than expose the besieged to the enemy, by rearing them outside the walls. In both these galleries were two loopholes, while two other galleries with loopholes commanded the entire quadrangle on the south-east.

The third story, like the former, is divided into rooms and galleries, communicating with each other at the angles, whereof the principal rooms were royal apartments. Within the massive thick wall, on the north angle, and between the top of the stairs and the entrance to the royal apartments, is the celebrated well, the construction of which has been ascribed to Julius Cæsar, but more probably dug by the Saxons long anterior to the erection of the keep. This is the well which William, duke of Normandy required that Harold, on his oath, should deliver up to him, on the death of Edward the Confessor.

In 1800 bomb-proof arches were built over the summit of this building, the castellated battlements being also mounted with cannon of sixty-eight pounds caliber.

Speaking of the situation upon which the keep stands, a modern writer makes the following pertinent remarks:

"That part of the promontory which is occupied by the buildings belonging to the ancient keep, is 320 feet above the level of the sea, rising almost perpendicularly. The view from this spot is truly sublime. The sea, whose waves even in the roughest

weather appear much diminished by the height from which they are viewed, in calmer seasons reflect on its polished surface, as in a mirror, all the outlines of this picturesque coast, as well as frequently the hills of Boulogne and the opposite shore ; and the eye of the observer wanders from North Foreland, and the spires of Reculver, over Minster, Ramsgate, and Sandwich, to the Godwin Sands, Dunkirk, Calais, and the French hills, stretching across the water to Dungeness Point and lighthouse, which appear as if standing in mid-channel ; and then resting on the heights westward of Dover, with the batteries and fortifications in full view, the modern buildings of the town, its ancient churches, and the picturesque ruins of the priory, fall on the beach at the very spot which has been introduced as the foreground of the picture, of the landing of Charles II. at the Restoration."

Towards the close of the reign of Edward the Confessor, Earl Godwin, father of Harold, having caused a rising in the kingdom, was obliged to fly for refuge to the continent. For the purpose of counteracting the rebellious spirit of that haughty noble, and his sons, assistance had been required of William, duke of Normandy, who arrived during their banishment, and was graciously received by the Confessor.

Godwin, being subsequently restored to favor, returned to England, and was reinstated in his honours ; but the visit of the Norman had excited in that nobleman a jealousy not to be extinguished by his death, which descended with equal virulence to his son, Harold. That aspiring noble, impelled by an insatiable thirst for empire, left no means untried for increasing his popularity, and paving the way for his advancement, on the earliest vacancy that should occur ; an event which the age and infirmities of Edward the Confessor, naturally led him to infer was not very far distant.

On his father's restoration to power, certain hostages for his fidelity were demanded, whom Edward consigned to the care of the Duke of Normandy. Harold, mortified that his relatives should continue prisoners in a foreign land, succeeded in procuring the king's consent for their release, by representing his own power and influence with the people.

Harold therefore embarked at Bosham, in Sussex, with a splendid retinue, but was driven by tempests on the coasts of

Ponthieu, and made prisoner by Guy, count of that district, who demanded an enormous sum for his ransom. Harold having sent intelligence of his situation to Duke William, the latter forthwith claimed his liberation, which was acceded to.

In the Norman court the earl was treated with munificence, but his ambition did not escape the penetrating eyes of the duke, who felt alarmed least he should entertain hopes of one day filling the British throne.

Harold, from his situation, was compelled to do homage for his lands and honours in England, thereby acknowledging William as heir-apparent to Edward the Confessor; and, before an assembly of William's barons, was constrained to swear that he would promote William's accession to the English throne, guard his interests in the court of Edward, deliver up the well in Dover castle, and admit a Norman garrison into that fortress. Shortly after, loaded with presents, Harold was permitted to leave the Norman court, having obtained the release of Haco, one of the hostages, while Wulfnoth was still detained through the policy of the subtle and despotic duke.

Harold subsequently reflecting on the concessions he had been compelled to make, conceived that an oath extorted through fear, might be cancelled without any violation of justice; and, on that account, exerted his influence to acquire popularity, so that on Edward's demise he might be invited to assume the regal dignity.

On the return of Harold, an insurrection raged among the Northumbrians, on which occasion he conducted himself with such moderation in redressing their complaints, as procured for him the esteem not only of the aggrieved, but the nation at large.

When the demise of the Confessor took place, Harold was in consequence proclaimed by universal suffrage, upon which he marched to the north, and, by espousing Editha, daughter of Alfgar, then ruling over Northumberland, secured to his interest her two brothers, Earls Morcar and Edwin; and, in consequence, his power seemed established on the firmest basis.

Neither Harold nor William had a legitimate title to the throne, the former only founding his claim on the popular election, and the latter assuming his right in consequence of the throne having been bequeathed to him by the deceased monarch;

in fact, the legitimate heir was Edward Atheling, whose imbecility of mind rendered him wholly incapable of wielding the sceptre of Britain.

Having, in the early part of our first volume, given an ample detail of what ensued, it will be sufficient here to add, that the result was the landing of William, duke of Normandy, and the fatal battle of Hastings, which, by depriving Harold of his life, ultimately placed the crown of England on the brows of the despotic Norman, who thence acquired the title of Conqueror.

After that decisive conflict, William had expected that the natives would submit to his dominion without a struggle, but therein he was disappointed. London was forthwith placed in a state of defence, and Edgar Atheling inducted to the throne. The inhabitants of Romney had also dispersed part of the Norman fleet, while forces were assembling at Dover. William, having overthrown the latter, and severely chastised the town of Romney, repaired to Dover, of which fortress Bertram de Ashburnham was then governor, but the garrison being too weak, after a short resistance, submitted to the mercy of William, who, with savage cruelty, ordered the decapitation of Bertram, and his two sons.

The possession of Dover castle was of infinite importance to William, the dysentery having prevailed in his army; wherefore such a commanding fortress, then deemed impregnable, afforded a sure receptacle for the sick and the wounded. William continued there eight days, being employed in surveying the works, having resolved to augment the same; when, after procuring supplies from Normandy, he proceeded direct for London.

The coronation having taken place, in compliment to the great abilities of his maternal brother, Odo, bishop of Bayeux, and in order to reward his eminent services, the king appointed him governor of the castle. He was further created earl of Kent, lord chief justice, and regent of England during the king's absence; and was invested with authority to build castles wheresoever he might conceive them necessary for the defence of the kingdom.

Previous to the aggrandisement of Odo, he had been regarded as a lover of justice, a patron of learning, and a benefactor to the cause of religion: no sooner, however, had William embarked for Normandy, than he displayed a character diamet-

rically opposite, and under a hope of succeeding to the papal chair, on the demise of Pope Gregory, his extortion increased with his means of indulging that propensity. The kingdom having thus become one scene of exaction and plunder, the men of Kent determined to stand or fall by each other, and, in consequence, applied to Eustace, earl of Boulogne, for assistance. Having, with that prince, devised a plan for possessing themselves of Dover castle, the earl landed with his troops by night, and found the confederates punctually assembled, who then marched together, favored by the darkness, in order to surprise the sentinels at their posts. The assailants, however, were either perceived, or betrayed; for, while endeavouring to scale the walls, the garrison made an unexpected sortie, and repressed the besiegers, many of whom were slain, and others hurled from the tremendous precipice.

Eustace then retreated hastily to his ships, leaving his Kentish allies to the vengeance of the regent, Odo, and also to deplore the failure of a plan, which, although abortive, was most unquestionably a very gallant enterprise. At the period when the Earl of Boulogne ventured upon this attack, the exterior walls of the castle were not erected, the sally having been made at the entrance on the back of the Roman ditch, when the skirmish took place upon the uneven ground separating that entrenchment and the side of the perpendicular cliff.

William, having ascertained the regent's tyranny, returned to England, and accidentally met the aspiring earl and his retinue, loaded with riches, on their way to Rome. Indignant at his conduct, the king commanded his guards to seize upon the earl, who being also a bishop, the soldiers, dreading the displeasure of the papal see, refused to obey. William being undecided respecting the conduct to be pursued, at the suggestion of the Archbishop of Canterbury, seized Odo with his own hands, not as *bishop of Bayeux*, but *earl of Kent;* and forthwith confiscated the whole of his ill-acquired wealth, through the medium of which, he had hoped to procure the papal chair.

Alarmed at the precarious state of his affairs, and fearful of an invasion on the part of Denmark, William added new works to Dover castle, that he might ensure an impregnable fortress on the Kentish coast; when the forfeited lands of Odo, together

with many others, were appropriated to carry that undertaking into effect.

John de Fiennes, a relative of the Conqueror, was then named constable of the castle, and warden of the Cinque Ports, those important offices being, as before remarked, entailed upon his heirs male. The king also gave him 171 knight's fees, to be held of him, *in capite*, by castle-guard tenure; and, with the revenues arising from those lands, he engaged eight knights to assist, who were associated with him, being obliged, by the condition of their tenures, to construct towers, and garrison the same with their military tenants.

The constable and his coadjutors, in consequence, began their labour by connecting the insulated towers with an exterior wall. This masonry is still to be traced from the ridge of the cliff, on the south side, and pursuing the line of towers round the northern curve of the wall, to its termination in an opposite direction; the numerous alterations, however, that have taken place, prevent the antiquary from gleaning any thing conclusive, respecting their pristine splendor.

The earliest building raised in the Norman curtain, on the side of the castle nearest the town, was a gateway, which bore the name of

Canon or Monk's Gate, a structure that no doubt derived its name from the canons, or secular priests, who formerly appertained to the castle, and resided over the arched passage. The period when these gates were taken down, as well as the walls of the gateway, on the inside of the curtain, is unknown; subsequently, however, to those alterations, a platform was made, by filling up the passage with earth, after which, cannon were placed upon it.

In 1797, the stone frame of the old gates, and the iron hooks on which they had hung, were discovered inside the arch; no bridge in passing to these gates was necessary, as they were only a few feet above the basement of the ditch now existing. On the destruction of this gate, another was erected farther from the cliff; the arch of which stood in the curtain, until 1797; but the passage had long been closed up.

An excavated avenue in the solid rock, many feet under the present surface, was recently discovered; but the use for which

Drawn by H. Gastineau.

Engraved by H. Adlard

DOVER CASTLE

KENT.

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it was cut, cannot be ascertained. About the same time, a well was also found, contiguous to Monk's gate.

In the last half century, very great alterations have been made in this part of the fortifications, and a military road been constructed, the ascent of which, from the town to this point, is gradual. At the spot in question, a new entrance was formed, defended by a drawbridge, having beneath it a caponniere, and a tête-du-pont, to annoy assailants marching up the military road.

Rokesley's Tower was founded by William de Albrincis: it is of a circular form, and originally bore his name; that chief, however, having deputed Thomas de Rokesley, of Lenham, to act as his subgovernor, it was from that period designated as above.

Fulbert de Dover's Tower was erected by Fulbert de Lucie, who accompanied the Conqueror to England. Being appointed one of the knights to defend this fortress, by John de Fiennes, he assumed the name of Dover, and on his personal services being no longer required at the castle, retired to his baronial residence, at Chilham: his successor, Hugh de Dover, his son, and Richard de Dover, a descendant of the latter, held the vast possessions of his progenitors: he ultimately retired to the abbey of Lesnes, which he had founded in 1179; and dying there, this famous name became extinct, when the estates passed, by the marriage of a female relative, to an illegitimate son of King John.

After Fulbert retired from his command, an officer named Calderscot held this tower, from whom it also derived the name of *Calderscot*.

The Jail. The square tower of Fulbert de Dover was long ago converted into a prison, all offenders and debtors being lodged therein. Its jurisdiction extends from Margate to Seaford, in Sussex, including the towns of Faversham, and Tenterden. At the back of this town is a house for the keeper, called the Bodar of Dover castle, who is also a sergeant at arms, holding his office under the lord warden of the Cinque Ports.

"This wretched prison," says Mr. Batcheller, "had formerly

only two rooms to contain its unfortunate inmates, and no food allowed to sustain life. Such a picture of misery ought to have excited pity in every human breast; and in the year 1796, the board of ordnance granted £600, for adding three rooms and a yard. The late D. P. Watts, esq. who occasionally visited Dover, and contributed to the comfort of these prisoners, had a path paved across the yard, for them to walk on for exercise, and to preserve health; and James Neild, esq. of Chelsea, completed the work, in 1810, by causing the whole to be paved with stone, which cost upwards of £60. In the same year, by the assistance of a benevolent Quaker, he gave £800, 3 per cents. to the Mayor and Corporation of Dover, the interest of which is to be distributed among such of the prisoners as are most destitute. On the side of the tower, towards the military road, is a grating, through which they solicit donations from those who enter the castle. By these precarious means they formerly obtained their only support; but their situation is now much improved."

Hirst Tower. This circular structure was also erected by Fulbert de Dover; who appointed John de Hirst to command therein, from whom this building obtained its appellation. For the services performed in this fortress, the above personage held the village and manor of Hirst, appurtenant to the lordship of Chilham.

Arsick or Say Tower is in part circular, and partly square, having been raised and defended by William de Arsick, lord of Leybourne, in Kent, at which place he possessed a castellated residence. It was subsequently commanded by Jeffery de Say, descended from William of that name, a person of considerable consequence, in Shropshire, at the period of the Conqueror. From the above commanders, this tower derived its appellations.

Gatton Tower was constructed by William de Peverell, in order to fortify the curtain between his own tower and that of Arsick. The name of Gatton was derived from Robert so called, a chief, who held it under William de Peverell, and, for its maintenance, was invested with the town of Gatton, in Surrey.

Peverell, Beauchamp, or Marshal's Tower. William

Peverell, of Dover, distinguished by that name from his illegitimate brother, William of Nottingham, was the founder of this noble tower, having several lordships and manors held by castle-guard tenure; Hugh Beauchamp was subsequently commander, as well as marshal of the castle; from which personages it acquired the above designations. This fort was erected in an angle of the exterior wall, having a fine arched gateway, with a moat and drawbridge, apartments for the troops, and an embattled platform for archers. From this structure, the soldiers commanded a considerable portion of the Saxon vallum; the hill, between the castle and town, laying likewise open to them.

An arched passage and caponniere conducted from the main gateway, between two parallel walls, to Palace gate, mentioned under the head of Suffolk's Tower. The outward curtain from this to Porth's tower, in the year 1771, fell into the ditch; and, on digging for a new foundation, the piers of the bridge, in front of the arched gateway, were discovered.

Porth, Gostling, or Queen Mary's Tower, was erected by Hugh de Porth, who held of the Conqueror twelve knight's fees, to defray the expenses incurred in raising the structure: this commander having selected an officer called Gostling, as his lieutenant; and the tower having been afterwards repaired by Queen Mary; it thence acquired the names whereby it is known.

Fiennes, Fienes, Newgate, or the Constable's Tower. On the appointment of John de Fiennes, as constable of the castle, by the Conqueror, to whom he was allied, he built this famous gateway, containing apartments suited to his elevated rank. To the above personage, several lordships and manors were given, for the erection of this building, and maintenance of the garrison requisite for its defence.

This structure, raised on the site of a fabric more ancient, was planned after the designs of Gundulph, who originally introduced the lofty portal, and secured the avenues by a drawbridge, portcullis, and massy gates, instead of the low entrance, and intricate passages of the Saxons. Two embattled towers, on either side of the gates, commanded the hill and passage to the

drawbridge; a subterranean avenue, cut in the rock, having to all appearance entered under the bridge, passing through the Saxon vallum to the interior moat. Under the arch, conducting to the castle, is the Porter's lodge, in which were formerly exhibited the sword of Cæsar, the first key used in the castle, and the horn with which the labourers were summoned to work, when the fortress was originally built: these, however, are ridiculous stories, now wholly discredited.

In the same passage, but on the opposite side, is an apartment wherein, after the warden no longer convened a court at Shepway, the records, the domesday-book of the ports, &c. were deposited. Upwards of a century back, through the neglect of the person to whom these MSS. were confided, the whole were either destroyed or purloined; some, however, having been copied, are fortunately still preserved.

On the right hand, at the end of this entrance, you ascend by a flight of stone steps to the Governor's hall, arched with stone, being about thirty-two feet long, by twenty-five wide. From this hall, over the arched gateway, flights of steps conduct to the towers on either side, while, by another flight, you gain the gallery, over the exterior of the gateway, being thirty-seven feet long, by thirteen broad. Over the gallery and arched-roof of the hall was an embattled terrace, now converted into three lodging rooms.

In 1580 new fire-places were constructed in the hall and gallery, and the narrow slips in the walls converted into handsome sashed windows. The view from these apartments is delightful in the extreme, commanding the sea, town, harbour, and romantic hills and valleys which diversify the surrounding country.

During the late war, a caponniere was constructed here, by filling up the spaces left by the Normans, between the piers of the bridge; while contiguous, and on the south side, is a platform whereon cannon are mounted.

Clopton Tower, situated in the curtain, presents an irregular hexagonal figure, having been built by John de Fiennes, who appropriated the manor of Clopton, in Norfolk, for its reparations and defence. It was held by service of castle-guard, and derived its appellation from the name of the individual in whom this trust was reposed. This tower was wholly reconstructed by

Edward IV.; and therein were kept the records of the castle under Edward VI., at which period one Levenste, finding his competitor, John Monyings, preferred to the office of lieutenant-governor in lieu of himself, burnt the whole of the valuable documents which had been there deposited.

Godsfoy's Tower, the nearest adjoining structure in the curtain, was the work of Fulbert de Dover, who gave the manor of Sentling for its support. The commander was Nicholas Veraund, whose successor, Godsfoy, gave his name to this fort.

Crevequer's Tower, next in succession, was raised by Robert Crevequer, who held, *in capite*, five knight's fees, by castle-guard. His father, Hamo, accompanied the Conqueror to England, and was made sheriff of Kent for his natural life.

Magminot's Tower was so denominated from that favorite with William I. who was appointed marshal of the castle, and one of the chosen knights. This tower, of a circular form, extended in the bend of the curtain, towards the south-east, and comprised two circular parts, connected by a sharp angular projection; while other circular projections communicated with the residue of the edifice, by means of a parapet on the wall.

Very great alterations were made in this portion of the castle by the celebrated legislator and warrior, Hubert de Burgh, of whom it would be superfluous to speak, having, in the first volume, inserted a sketch of that hero's memorable life.

Saint John's Tower, of a circular form, was, by Hubert de Burgh, or Henry III. intrusted to a person whose name was Saint John, whence it acquired that name.

Fitzwilliam's Tower was built in the curtain, on the north-east side of the castle, on a plan similar to those of Magminot, but less extensive. Independent of the lands given by John de Fiennes, for the support of the garrison herein quartered, others were subsequently granted at Tunbridge, Ham, and Whitfield, for the same purposes.

A subterranean pass existed at this tower, having an entrance in the interior ditch, on the side of the Saxon vallum, which, by

means of a caponniere extending across the exterior ditch, perforated the bank, opening into the north meadow, where a massive gate, hung on pivots in stone sockets, and secured by bars fixed in the wall, served to defend the entrance. Between that and the tower was a drawbridge, which, when elevated, guarded the arched passage in the ditch; while, farther on, a portcullis served as a third barrier at Fitzwilliam's tower.

The latter personage, who commanded this fortress, held three knight's fees, by castle-guard tenure, as the associate of John de Fiennes. At the battle of Hastings, Fitzwilliam officiated as marshal of the army, where he so greatly distinguished himself, that, after his victory, William presented him with the scarf wherewith his own arm had been decorated.

Watch Towers. These structures had neither knights appointed to them, nor lands given for their construction or repairs, being most probably appendages to the two great towers adjoining.

Albrincis, or Averanche's Tower, is the most perfect and curious of these Norman edifices still remaining, having been erected in an angle of the curtain, by William Albrincis, one of the confederated knights, to whom the guardianship of this castle was intrusted. The foundation is below the bottom of the deep ditch, on the north-east side, and the wall ten feet thick, and raised to a level with the Saxon vallum; a gallery was also built in the wall, with platforms behind the apertures, for the bowmen, in all of the five sides of this tower. A room existed in this structure, arched over, and open in front, which was apparently a recess wherein the weapons and implements of war were deposited. Above the chamber in question, existed a platform, into which the gallery in the wall opened; there was also a circular staircase leading from the platform to the summit of the tower, whence the motions of an enemy might be observed, and signals made. In the wall, upon this story, was an arched gallery, supported by small columns, and three elliptic arches, where soldiers on duty were secure, and sheltered from the weather. Thence the archers commanded a considerable length of the ditch, as well as the approach to Godwin's tower. Towards the castle both sides of the platform were open, and near the

apertures of the galleries a machecolation was found in the wall, for pouring down hot water, burning sand, or molten lead.

Veville, or Pencester Tower, stood between those of Albrincis, and Earl Godwin, having, most probably, been built by that Earl at the period when he opened the entrance into the Roman fortress. When John de Fiennes commanded in the castle, Veville seems to have been appointed, his name standing the first upon record. Stephen de Pencester was named to the command of this tower, after having conducted the 400 horsemen into the castle, when besieged by the Dauphin of France, as previously mentioned. For the maintenance of the garrison stationed in this tower, the manors of Postling and Horton were appropriated. In the bank between this tower and that of Fitzwilliam, several bomb-proof casements have been constructed, which open in the Saxon vallum; while a covered way has also been formed, extending from the vallum in the direction of the Roman fort. All the Roman and Saxon works, between this tower and Godwin's gateway, have been completely destroyed.

Ashford Towers, comprising four square structures, which command the eastern wall to its termination at the edge of the cliff, derived their name from Ashford, the lordship of which town was given for their erection or repairs. They were most probably intended for sentinels, as their circumscribed dimensions did not admit of numbers equivalent to a regular garrison.

Beyond the curtain, bomb-proof batteries are built, with excavations and arches of brick, for a free communication to all parts of the outworks.

Pictaviensis, who was chaplain to William the Conqueror, during his expedition, states that the cliff was, in his time, merely cut with instruments of iron, so as to resemble walls and battlements. Those chalk defences, however, mouldering away by every winter's frost, soon yielded to the furious storms, so that a few centuries laid them in ruins. On the 6th of April, 1580, an earthquake extended along the whole range of these hills, which destroyed the parts then remaining, also throwing down a considerable portion of the cliff, together with the ends of the exterior wall built on the edge of the precipice.

When constructing a road from the new entrance to the north curtain, a well was discovered, partly filled with rubbish. Between the road in question, and the precipice, a new hospital has been erected; the situation, however, is much exposed to the inclemency of the weather, which, during the winter, is boisterous, and very cold.

It was in the vicinity of the spot now occupied by the above building, that Dr. Jefferies and Mons. Blanchard, on the 7th of January, 1785, commenced their perilous aërial excursion from Dover to France, where they alighted, without having sustained any injury, in the environs of the forest of Guines.

Upon the verge of the cliff stands the beautiful piece of brass ordnance, commonly called Queen Elizabeth's pocket pistol, which was presented to that extraordinary princess by the states of Holland, in token of respect for the assistance she had afforded them against Spain, during their contest in establishing the independence of that country. This formidable instrument was cast at Utrecht, by James Tolkys, A.D. 1544, being twenty-four feet long, having formerly been reputed as capable of carrying a twelve-pound ball to a distance of seven miles. The touchhole was once decorated by an amulet of gold, no longer visible. This gun has not been fired for a series of years, and there appears every probability that a charge of powder would now blow it to atoms, and inflict serious injury to any one who should hazard such a rash experiment. This piece displays many beautiful devices illustrative of the blessings of peace, and horrors of war, the arms of England being also delineated, while on its breech are the following lines in low Dutch:

"Breeck scrvet al mure ende wal
Bin ic geheten
Doer Berch en dal boert minen bal
Van mi gesmeten."

Translated:

"O'er hill and dale I hurl my ball,
Breaker my name, of mound and wall."

In the year 1827 this famous piece of ordinance was remounted on an iron carriage.

Among the royal and celebrated personages who have at various periods been inmates of Dover castle, we have to enumerate the following distinguished list of names.

William the Conqueror not only repaired to this fortress on various occasions, but greatly improved and extended its fortifications.

Henry I. A.D. 1101, repaired to welcome the Earl of Flanders at Dover, where a treaty was signed between those potentates.

During the civil commotions under Stephen, the garrison of this fortress declared itself in favor of the Empress Matilda; the king, however, by continued importunities, ultimately prevailed with Wakelyn, then governor of the same, to deliver the castle into his hands. Stephen died here in 1154; but history is silent respecting the exact spot where that event occurred.

Henry II. repaired to Dover castle two years after the death of Stephen, being then on his way to the continent, to possess himself of the city of Nantz, whereto he laid claim as his inheritance by right of succession.

Richard I. son of Henry II. repaired to this castle previous to his sailing for Palestine, with a hundred large ships, and eighty gallies.

When King John was formally deposed by the pope, and the kingdom laid under an interdict, Philip of France, who became desirous of invading England, had assembled a numerous army for that purpose on the opposite shore. To oppose those measures, John summoned his military tenants to Dover, commanding the royal navy to assemble off that port. During his continuance at this town, John was visited by Pandulph, the pope's legate, who represented the precarious situation of the kingdom, and the mighty power of Philip, darkly hinting also at the disaffection of the English army. The king, aware of his danger, after a considerable hesitation, then signed the instrument he had previously rejected; which event took place on the 13th of May, 1213. Two days after, John, in the church of the Templars, in presence of the nobles, formally resigned his kingdom to the pope, consenting to hold the same as a vassal, at the yearly rental of 1000 marks.

In 1215, the same monarch, having violated the charter granted to his barons at Runnymead, resided at Dover during

the September following, in expectation of foreign auxiliaries, whom he had hired in order to repress the liberties of his people.

In the month of May, 1216, John assembled another army at Dover, to oppose the Dauphin, whereof mention has been previously made.

Henry III. in 1255, having ratified a peace with Spain, embarked at Boulogne, and landed at Dover, with his queen, &c. and 1000 horsemen, when he was conducted by a splendid cavalcade to the castle.

In 1259, Richard, king of the Romans, appeared on the coast, when the barons, who had usurped the royal authority, opposed his landing; requiring, as a condition, that he should swear to support their proposed reformation. The prince being undecided, a fleet was prepared, and an army collected to resist, in the event of that monarch's seeking to land. King Richard, being intimidated, promised compliance; and was, in consequence, allowed to disembark at Dover.

In 1262, Henry III. having adjusted his affairs with the barons, again visited Dover castle, when he named Robert Wallerand constable of the same.

Edward, Prince of Wales was appointed constable during his absence in Palestine, who filled that office by deputy; and, on the demise of the king, his father, in 1272, visited Dover upon his return to England, and during his reign, on many subsequent occasions, repeated his visits to this fortress.

In 1308, Edward II. repaired to Dover castle, and embarked with the Cinque Ports fleet for Boulogne, to celebrate his ill-fated marriage with Isabella of France; and, on his return, he revisited Dover, with his queen, and a splendid retinue.

Edward III. first became an inmate of this castle in 1329, when the Cinque Ports fleet was assembled in readiness to receive him. He then embarked with a 1000 horse, and a splendid suite, to do homage to the King of France, for his possessions in that realm; and, on a subsequent occasion, was accompanied hither by the queen, when they sailed hence on a visit to the French court. In 1339, Chargny, governor of St. Omer, having laboured to corrupt Amerigo di Pavia, then governor of Calais, which place had been recently subjugated, the king embarked on board the Cinque Ports fleet at Dover, and, sailing over to

Calais, defeated the treacherous intentions of Chargny, and secured the town.

In 1382, Princess Anne, sister of the Emperor Winceslaus, and daughter of Charles IV. arrived at Dover castle, when she was splendidly welcomed, prior to her union with Richard II. In 1396, this prince also embarked here for Calais, with the dukes of York and Gloucester, his uncles, and a train of nobility, &c. previous to his interview with the King of France.

Henry V. A.D. 1415, landed at Dover with the dead bodies of the Duke of York and the Earl of Norfolk, slain at the famous battle of Agincourt.

In the ensuing spring, that prince was also visited at Dover by Sigismond, king of the Romans, and emperor elect; for which purpose he repaired to France, while Henry made the necessary preparations for his reception in England.

Henry V. assembled an army at Dover, A.D. 1421, composed of 24,000 archers, and 4000 horse, having also a fleet of 500 sail, with which he embarked for the continent, to avenge the death of his brother, the Duke of Clarence, slain at the battle fought near Beaujé.

King Henry VII. A.D. 1491, led his forces to Dover, where he embarked for the continent; but, while attacking Boulogne, a treaty of peace being entered upon, he relanded with his army at the port of Dover.

Henry VIII. on a variety of occasions visited this town and castle; when, among other salutary regulations for payment of the revenues of this fortress, which had been misapplied, he enacted that, for the future, all rents should be paid into his exchequer, within fifteen days after the festivals of St. Simon and St. Jude, under the penalty of doubling the same for every omission.

The above monarch, in 1513, ordered the barons of the Cinque Ports to equip their fleet in order to cover the passage of his army to France; for which expedition, he arrived at Dover castle on the 15th of June, and there continued fifteen days with Catherine of Arragon, when he embarked for Calais, with the determination of reconquering those French provinces which had formerly appertained to the English crown.

On the 30th of May, 1520, the king and queen at Dover castle received their nephew, Charles V. emperor of Germany,

who remained until the following day, when they departed for Canterbury. Henry VIII. then accompanied the emperor on board his fleet, which had sailed to Sandwich, and subsequently returned to meet Queen Catherine at Dover castle. The two potentates then embarked to meet Francis I. between Guisnes and Ardres, afterwards called the Field of Gold Cloth, in consequence of the gorgeous display there exhibited. Henry frequently afterwards visited this castle, as before stated, and caused the erection of those of Sandown, Deal, Walmer, and Sandgate; expending also large sums in repairing the harbour, and erecting bulwarks and block-houses at Dover.

Queen Elizabeth, A.D. 1575, visited Dover castle, during her progress through the county of Kent; and expended large sums in reparations of the walls and towers.

On the 13th of June, 1625, Charles I. arrived here, and provided apartments for the reception of Princess Henrietta Maria of France, whom he conducted to the castle; after which, they proceeded to Canterbury, where the marriage was solemnized in the abbey of St. Augustine, as previously mentioned in our History of that celebrated monastery.

In February 1642, the above monarch and his queen, accompanied by their daughter, Princess Mary, again visited Dover, having been expulsed, as one may say, from their throne, with pecuniary resources barely equivalent for their necessities. Upon that occasion, the queen and her eldest daughter, then aged thirteen, embarked for Holland, Charles returning to Greenwich; when, subsequently, the rebellion took place, which deprived him of his life and throne.

On the 1st of August, 1642, Dover castle was wrested from its lawful owner by one Blake, a merchant of the town, who, with only ten determined republicans, ventured to scale the tremendous cliff fronting the sea, in which direction no danger was to be apprehended from the garrison.

Hasted describes this daring exploit in the following words: "So late as the civil commotions of King Charles the First's reign, this castle attracted the attention of the leaders of both parties; and, while the one endeavoured to keep, the other strove as constantly to gain, possession of it; but it was wrested out of the king's hands, being taken in 1642 by surprise, in the night, by one Drake, a merchant, and a zealous partizan for the

Parliament. Drake had formed a plan to besiege this fortress, and August 1, 1642, was the time fixed for putting his design into execution. Every thing being prepared for the purpose, he, with ten or twelve men, by the assistance of ropes and scaling ladders, reached the top of the high cliff, with their muskets, undiscovered. Drake was probably well acquainted with this part of the castle, and knew that it was left unguarded, as it was thought inaccessible from the side next the sea. Having reached the summit unmolested, they immediately proceeded to the post where the centinel was placed, and, having secured him, they threw open the gates: the garrison, being few in number, and, in the confusion of the night, concluding he had a strong party with him, the officer on command surrendered up the castle to them. Drake immediately despatched messengers to Canterbury, with the news of his success; and the Earl of Warwick being there, he sent him a sufficient force to defend the castle in future."

On the 29th of May, 1660, Charles II. disembarked at this port, on his restoration, accompanied by the dukes of York and Gloucester, and many persons of high rank. On landing from the Royal Charles, the king was met by General Monk, whom he cordially embraced, and was then conducted by the mayor, &c. to a canopy erected on the beach, where the minister of St. Mary's presented him with a large Bible, having clasps embossed with gold, when that ecclesiastic delivered a complimentary harangue. Charles II. during the same year, presented to the Corporation of Dover the mace, still in use, bearing this inscription, *Carolus Secundus hic posuit vestigia prima* 1660.

Princess Henrietta Maria, duchess of Orleans, on the 15th of May, 1670, repaired to Dover on a visit to her brothers, Charles II. and the Duke of York, by whom she was graciously received, the king keeping his court at Dover for a fortnight.

Maria d'Este, princess of Modena, aged fifteen, landed at Dover on the 21st of June, 1672, and was met by the Duke of York, afterwards James II. when the nuptials took place the same evening; the Duchess of Modena, mother of that princess, being present on the occasion.

The only personage of royal dignity, who has made Dover castle his residence since the above period, is the present Duke of Clarence, heir apparent to the British throne.

In delineating the existing state of Dover castle, we shall have recourse to the information contained in the History written by W. Batcheller, to whom we have previously owned our obligations.

Prior to the year 1727, Dover castle appears to have suffered much, from neglect as well as violence. At the period alluded to, it was visited by Dr. Stukeley, who expressed infinite regret, that a fortress so venerable, and which had at various times, on account of its impregnable bulwarks, intimidated our enemies, and preserved the kingdom from invasion, should have become a prey to the ravages of time, and the negligence of succeeding ages.

During the wars with France, under Queen Anne, 1500 French prisoners were confined in the palace or keep, who, in less than twelve months, materially injured the building, and destroyed most of the timbers and floorings.

The Duke of Cumberland surveyed this castle, in 1745, when additional barracks were erected for 1000 men. A bastion of earth was also thrown up on the north-west extremity of the fortress, and other improvements carried on under his direction.

During the French revolution, which commenced in 1794, when threats of invasion were denounced, this fortress became a subject of national importance: £50,000 were voted for that purpose, and surveyors and engineers sent to examine the works. Miners, mechanics, and labourers, were employed to excavate the rock, for subterranean works, casemates, and mines, as well as to erect caponnieres; and cast up additional mounds and ramparts. These immense bulwarks environ, at proper distances, the whole fortress, consisting of sod surmounted with breastworks and heavy cannon. To ascend their steep sides would require great exertion, even without firearms or accoutrements, and to bombard them, prove of no utility, as the balls must be buried in the sod. Communications are formed with the interior works, by means of shafts and subterranean ways, passing beneath the deep ditch encompassing the exterior wall. This moat is sunk in the solid rock, and the wall built against its perpendicular sides. From the height of the ground on the outer façade of the ditch, and the mounts that surround it, the wall lies secure from any bombardment, except towards the summit, which forms a breastwork, from the raised surface within, both for cannon and musketry.

Drawn. by H. Gastineau.

Engraved by H Adland

At the period in question, extensive barracks were excavated in the solid rock, which are several feet underground, light and air being admitted by apertures perforating the surface, and openings in the side of the perpendicular cliff facing the ocean. By this means, accommodations are now provided for a garrison of 3 or 4000 men.

The views from the castle walls are truly romantic; those on the north and north-west, being bounded by the surrounding hills; between which and the battlements, a deep valley descends towards the sea. The views from the battlements on the keep, already described, extend over the hills, to the Isle of Thanet, comprehending a vast extent of country.

From the western battlements the prospect is still more delightful, commanding the fertile valley, down which descend the small river Dour, and the main road from London. Other valleys branch off to the left, which are intersected by lofty hills; while the populous villages of Charlton and Buckland, occupy a considerable extent in that direction.

Fronting the battlements to the south-west, being less than half a mile distant, the extensive and lofty heights raise their fortified crests above the most towering pinnacle of the castle. On that hill formerly stood a pharos or watchtower, similar to that already described under the head of the Roman works. It was called the Devil's drop, or Bredon-stone, which site is now occupied by a redoubt. The haven formerly entered between these two lighthouses, and occupied the principal part of the valley, wherein the present town is situated. Dover now spreads across the whole extent towards the sea; and, from the utmost extremity, in conjunction with its adjoining villages, forms nearly one continued range of buildings, extending about two miles up the country.

Beyond the town, and more southward than the heights, from which it is separated by a deep valley, rises the lofty and majestic head of Shakspeare or Hay Cliff, 350 feet above the surges, incessantly thundering against its base. As the ascent to its summit rises from a valley behind, every fall of the cliff considerably reduces its altitude; whence we may infer that it was much loftier when Shakspeare penned these beautiful lines:

"There is a cliff, whose high and bending head
Looks fearfully on the confined deep.

"How dizzy 'tis to cast one's eye so low!
The crows and choughs, that wing the midway air,
Seem scarce so gross as beetles. Half way down
Hangs one that gathers samphire; dreadful trade!
Methinks he seems no bigger than his head.
The fishermen that walk upon the beach
Appear like mice, and yon tall anchoring bark
Diminished to her cock, her cock a buoy,
Almost too small for sight. The murm'ring surge,
That on th' unnumber'd idle pebbles chafes,
Cannot be heard so high. I'll look no more,
Lest my brain turn, and the diminish'd sight
Topple down headlong.

"From the dread summit of this chalky bourn
Look up; a height—the shrill gorg'd lark so far
Cannot be seen or heard."

From the edge of this cliff, east of the castle, the eye, elevated 350 feet above the ocean, wanders over a vast expanse of waters. Opposite stretches the coast of France, distant about twenty miles; in clear weather, the cliffs, fields, houses, and a wide extent of country, being distinctly visible. To the right lies the town of Boulogne, and, on a hill beyond, the lofty tower, built by the Emperor Napoleon, at the period of his intended invasion; at which spot, were encamped his numerous armies. Twenty-three miles to the left of Boulogne, on the low ground, stands the town of Calais, whose towers and battlements are often clearly seen by the naked eye. Ships of all nations trading with the northern ports, or the city of London, are continually passing this narrow neck of the channel, presenting a variegated scene, not to be surpassed in any other part of the kingdom.

Having described such prospects as appear most interesting, when contemplated from different parts of the castle, we shall now endeavour to convey some idea of this structure, when beheld from a distance.

From the many elevated points in the neighbouring districts, and more particularly from the London road, Dover castle strikes the observer in all its grandeur, so that one is rather led

to consider it a fortified city, than a single fortress. About thirty-five acres of ground are enclosed within the walls, and its conspicuous appearance from the channel has, through a succession of ages, guided the mariner, who here finds a shelter under its lofty summit, from the raging westerly winds that drive him from his moorings in the adjacent downs.

The inequalities of the ground in the vicinity of Dover castle, as recently observed, alternately conceal and display its lofty turrets and hoary battlements, until, at an abrupt turning of the road, between Walmer and Dover, one of the most striking prospects which imagination can conceive is suddenly presented: the town, with its port, pier, and harbour, at the mouth of a narrow valley, between two lofty promontories, seem to recede from each other as if divided asunder by some mighty convulsion of nature. On one side, the formidable batteries and extensive fortifications appertaining to the castle; on the opposite heights, redoubts and military works, requiring the pen of an engineer to be intelligibly described; a rapid river descending through the valley; the ocean; the ships; the distant hills on the French coast; and the stupendous elevation from which these several objects are thus, at a single glance, opened to the wondering eye, never fail to delight and astonish the observant traveller. The impression made by such a scene is heightened when bringing in review the important events, both military and political, assimilating with the history of the town and castle of Dover, which so justly procured for them the titles of *Clavis et Repagulum Regni.*

When viewed from the opposite coast, the castle appears towering above the clouds, so that the inhabitants of these shores, and foreign mariners, might well stand in awe of its mighty strength, and clarion forth its fame through distant climes. In the event of enemies now assaulting its battlements, or those of the contiguous heights, strongly fortified lines would enclose a numerous army, and discomfiture chastise their insolence, and repel the daring aggression.

The Town of Dover stands on the eastern coast of Kent, being in latitude 51° 8′ and longitude 1° 5′, occupying the narrowest part of the British channel. The town lies in an open bay, having a fine beach composed of loose pebbles, the position

of which is continually changed by the operation of the flux and reflux of the tides.

The towering cliffs skirting the ocean abruptly break off towards the centre of the bay; and the expanse between them terminates a beautiful valley, extending several miles inland, branching into other vallies, and expanding in various directions between the lofty hills whereby they are surmounted. On ascending the valley, about four miles near the village of Ewell, are the two sources of the river Dour, which small stream, working several mills, winds its course towards Dover, and enters the town a small distance from the sea, wherein it formerly emptied itself in a direct course towards the eastern part of the bay. Having been long diverted from that course, it now turns south-west, and, running parallel with the shore, traverses a spacious sheet of water called the Pent, where it is admitted through a gateway into another piece of water named the basin, and thence proceeds by a third gateway, to the present harbour, and so into the ocean.

The sea at high water advances, in some places, to the very base of the cliffs, furiously dashing against, and undermining them in tempestuous weather. The elevated parts, therefore, being deprived of support, frequently fall with tremendous crashes, being precipitated to a great distance into the waves; by which operations the rocks were formed, now apparent on each extremity of the bay, on the receding of the tide.

No records respecting the town of Dover can be relied upon previous to the invasion of Julius Cæsar, upon which subject we have spoken at length in the early part of the First Volume.

Dover, during its occupation by the Romans, bore various denominations; by Ptolomy it is called *Darvenum*, and *Darvernum;* by other writers *Doris*, and *Durus;* and, in the Itinerary of Antoninus, it is written *Dubris*.

The precise spot where the original town and port were situated, is difficult to determine; it is, however, obvious, from the Commentaries of Cæsar, that, on his landing, the sea flowed a considerable distance up the valley. Somner, Plot, &c. have conjectured that the ancient port was in the neighbourhood of Charlton, about a mile and a half more inland than the existing shore; Camden, from the number of anchors and planks of ships dug up in that part of the valley, advocating the same opinion.

Darell affirms that the port, long after that epoch, occupied the site of the present market-place, adding, that St. Martin's church, built A.D. 696, was erected on the spot where, prior to the reign of Arviragus, ships rode at anchor. Arviragus, as we have before observed, appears to have been a tributary king, and contemporary with the Emperor Claudius, whose reign commenced A.D. 46; and that this space of ground was anciently submerged scarcely admits of a doubt, from the nature of the soil, being a continuation of alternate sand or beach down to the present shore.

Be this, however, as it may, it is nevertheless certain, from the Roman bath discovered under part of St. Mary's church, that the waters had receded from this side of the valley long prior to the abandonment of the island in the year 447, by the imperial legions.

From these statements, and the names of two of the gates, we may infer, that Dubris occupied the present site of the market-place, Church street, Canon street, Market street, King street, Bench street, Queen street, Above Wall street, and the upper part of Snargate street, and probably Town Wall street, with their lanes, passages, &c.

Some authors are of opinion that the Roman road, or Watling street, entered at Biggin gate, formerly standing at the extremity of Biggin street; Harris conceives it passed down by what is now called the Park wall, at the lower part of the *Maison Dieu* field, entering the town west of St. James's church, and thence proceeding to its termination at Ford's corner, being the landing place from foreign ports, and, consequently, the original *Portus Dubris*. If correct in this statement, we may conclude that a branch of the road descended on either side of the haven; and, as Ford's corner is supposed to have existed in the lane now conducting to the river from King street, south-east of the Flying Horse Inn, we rather surmise the branch that entered at Biggin gate proceeded to this spot.

Doubts have been entertained whether the Romans ever fortified Dover with a wall; it however appears singular that two gates, namely those of Adrian and Severus, should have existed under the Normans; affording, as we conceive, very strong presumptive evidence of their having been built by the Romans prior to their abandonment of Britain. The Emperor Adrian, above mentioned, built a wall eighty miles long, from the river

Eden in Cumberland, to the Tine in Northumberland, in order to prevent the incursions of the Picts and Scots; while Severus, having obtained many signal victories over those barbarians, died at York in 211. Kilburne states that Severus's gate was raised by him in 209, wherefore, being then in this island, our opinion is, that he was its founder. Additional proofs, however, that the Romans fortified Dover with a wall, will be adduced hereafter, whereto we may add that they had a cemetery without Adrian's gate, which will be also noticed in due course.

On the Saxons being invited over by Vortigern, A.D. 449, instead of supporting the natives, they usurped the government, and carried on a war of extermination. During that calamitous period, on which we have so much dilated at the commencement of our History, the structures founded by the Romans were consumed, and they continued heaps of ruins until the accession of Alfred the Great. That magnanimous hero, and profound statesman, anxious to promote the happiness of his people, encouraged them to reconstruct their towns and cities, and congregate for general security. From that period, Dover, in process of time, rose to its ancient importance. A guild was also obtained whereby the inhabitants were placed in a situation to provide a certain number of ships for the king's service, being rewarded for the same by a charter of privileges, under Edward the Confessor; when it appears they were empowered to arm twenty vessels, each carrying twenty-one experienced mariners, which fleets they maintained at sea for fifteen days.

When the Norman conquest took place, Dover had been so reduced by the flames, that only twenty-nine houses were left standing; concerning which conflagration, or the precise time when it happened, no account is handed down. However, as forces had been assembled here to oppose the Conqueror, and William having besieged and taken the castle, when he beheaded the governor, and was guilty of various acts of barbarity towards the inhabitants, it is most probable this calamity occurred during those conflicts.

William having acquired the throne, not only the castle, as previously observed, but the town of Dover, equally became an object of his solicitude and favor. In his 18th year, therefore, we find the rental estimated at £40, while, from the return of the king's bailiff, it amounted to £54.

We are given to understand, from Mr. Lyon, that the Conqueror, at the close of his reign, encompassed this town with a wall, gates, and towers, some of the foundations being composed of stone, conveyed from Caen in Normandy; he further adds, that such were its earliest fortifications. According to ancient authors, this statement is erroneous, and we rather conceive that part of the Roman walls and towers still remained, which the Conqueror repaired, and extended towards the east, as the sea had then left a large portion of its former bed in the valley.

We will now quote the information contained in Mr. Batcheller's History, as regards the course of the wall, and situation of the ten gates, from that of Eastbrook to Biggin gate.

Eastbrook Gate stood at the foot of Castle hill, adjoining St. James's church, near a spot called Mansfield's corner; probably at a short distance below the church.

St. Helen's Gate. The wall continued from Eastbrook gate, in a south-western direction, to a tower in the curtain, between Eastbrook and the next gate, named St. Helen's, which stood contiguous to a mansion called Copthall, and afterwards Moor's hall, probably on, or near the site of the present mansion belonging to Mrs. Rice.

The Postern or Fisher's Gate, was so called from being used by the seamen, in conveying their fish to the town. It led to the old harbour, and stood near the back of the present Fox Public-house.

Butchery Gate. The tower of this gate, and remaining parts of the wall on either side, were taken down in 1819. The foundations might still be discovered under the pavement, paling, and northern wall of Mr. Shipdem's mansion. This tower was used for a night prison till its demolition, when the materials were found perfectly firm, and almost as compact as a solid rock. The river flowed directly under the western part of the tower, and still continues to empty itself at the same place.

Severus's Gate was built, A.D. 209, being four years after that emperor had erected a castle at Reculver; and, according

to Harris, in an old manuscript, still preserved in the Dering family, it is said that the Emperor Severus fortified this town with a wall. The gate in question led from the present Bench street, and the tower stood considerably in advance from the line of the town wall, flanking the same both to the east and west. On the western foundation of this tower now stands the eastern front of the King's Arms Library, the northern front of the library and house being on the straight and continued foundation of the town wall, from Butchery gate. These foundations were so compact, as almost to bid defiance to the pickaxe or chisel.

The Customer of the port formerly received the king's dues in apartments over this gate. Here was also a place or exchange paved with stone, where merchants used to meet at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, to transact business; which, in the course of time was called *Pennyless Bench*. The corporation claimed a right to the town wall, gates, and towers; and, when the Customer removed his situation, his apartments were converted into a prison.

After this gate had been taken down, a platform was constructed for three cannons, called the Three Gun Battery. It continued in this state until the year 1800, when several of the inhabitants obtained a grant, from the corporation, of the ground and materials, on condition that they should erect a bridge over the pent, to open a communication for carriages between the town and the ropewalk, which was accomplished by subscription. As the distance was considerable between this and Snare gate, the curtain was defended by a square tower, standing in the intermediate space, the foundations of which are now covered by houses.

Snare or Pier Gate, stood near the foot of the cliff, and crossed the street now leading to the pier. On a stone placed in the wall, where the gate once stood, is an inscription, whence we are informed that the gate was taken down in 1588. This stone also serves as the boundary between the freehold and leasehold estates in the town.

Adrian's, or Upwall Gate, supposed to have been built by that emperor, was situated a short distance from the cliff,

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above Snare gate, and conducted to the common, now called the heights. Just without this gate was a Roman burying ground, already noticed, where, on clearing the site for a building, in 1797, several urns were found, containing Roman coins, but, their inscriptions were not legible; others being also discovered in 1804. On the hill, at a short distance, stood the Roman pharos, the walls of which were remaining in the time of Henry VIII.

Common, or Cow Gate, led to the common, and stood at the upper extremity of Queen street. By order of the corporation this edifice was taken down in 1776, the foundations whereof, and some remains of the wall, may be traced at several places, from this to Adrian's gate.

St. Martin's, or Monk's Gate, was a private structure for the use of the monks, and situated in the wall bounding the collegiate church; while the present wall, at the upper part of the old churchyard, was erected on the foundation of the old town wall.

Biggin, or North Gate, stood at the lower extremity of Biggin street, at the north-west corner of St. Mary's church-yard, and was taken down in the year 1752. Apartments were built over this structure for a watchman, to sound an alarm, or make signals, in cases of danger. Part of the wall adjoining was destroyed in 1827, to make room for the present Rose Public-house, when the materials proved perfectly sound. Bricks of an extraordinary size were also discovered, intermixed with the stone, similar to those existing in the remains of Richborough and Stutfall castles, while traces of foundations are found from this place to Cow gate.

Leland affirms, that, in his time, the wall could not be traced beyond the churchyard, and that it took a direct course thence to the river. The writer in question might have gone a little farther, as we are given to understand the foundations were clearly discernable within the last fifty years, to the extent of the wool factory belonging to Mr. Jennings. Hence, we should suppose, that they passed under the present footpath, to the bridge, and thence across the meadows to Eastbrook gate, already mentioned.

Some have supposed that, instead of proceeding down to the river, the wall branched off at the lower part of the churchyard, or the extremity of Mr. Jennings's factory, to Stembrook; and thence, skirting the backs of the houses, stretched to Eastbrook gate. To reconcile this hypothesis with Leland's account, either the river must have passed much nearer the churchyard than at present, or a brook, of which perhaps the ditch in front of Elsham's cottages, is the bed, designated by Leland as the river, might have emptied itself near what is now called Stembrook.

There still remain, eastward of the bridge at Eaststone, some traces of Eastbrook, which branches off a few rods from the present stream. We may reasonably conclude it anciently crossed St. James's street, near Eastbrook gate, and thence appears to have derived its appellation. From the spot in question it flowed into the old haven, situated at the lower part of Woolcomber street, whereof mention will be made when speaking of the harbour.

The first of the Cinque Ports incorporated by a charter was Dover. It had long enjoyed privileges, but Edward I. not only confirmed the same, but granted a charter, acknowledging the corporation, under the title of mayor and commonalty.

The same monarch, in order to encourage the inhabitants after the loss they had sustained, by the landing of the French in 1296, before mentioned, established a mint at Dover; and, by a patent under the date 1299, appointed "the table of the exchanger of money," to be held in this town, and at Yarmouth.

In 1323, being the 17th of Edward II. this town was divided into twenty-one wards, bearing the appellations in the annexed note;* each charged with one ship for the king's use; on which account each possessed the privilege of a licensed packet boat, called a *Passenger*, for conveying goods and passengers from this port to Whitsand, then the accustomed place of embarkation on the French coast.

In the 10th of Edward III. A.D. 1336, it was enacted that all

* 1. Charlton
2. Biggin
3. St. Mary
4. Canon
5. Morian
6. Shingle
7. Nankin
8. Rolvenden
9. Bell
10. St. George
11. St. Nicholas
12. Ore
13. Wolves
14. Horsepool
15. Bumaris
16. Ox
17. Ballast
18. Parks
19. Seagate
20. Snaregate
21. Adrian's.

FREE
PRESS

merchants, travellers, and pilgrims, proceeding to the continent, should make Dover the place of embarkation.

The prices of passage, as regulated under Richard. II. which commenced in 1377, were in summer 6d. for a single person, and 1s. 6d. for a horse ; and, in winter, 1s. for a single person, and 2s. for a horse.

The above monarch, in 1396, having demanded Isabella, a princess of France, then only seven years of age, in marriage, the kings and courts of either nation met on the plains, between Ardres and Calais, the espousals taking place with great splendor. The object of Richard was to cement peace, and acquire a large marriage portion ; but, in his passage from Calais to Dover, a storm destroyed a portion of the fleet, with much of the treasure, so that the king two years after, was so poor, that he borrowed of the mayor, &c. of Dover, £40, so great was his distress. This, however, was no small sum at the period in question ; a convincing proof that Dover had then recovered from the wretched state to which it had been reduced by fire at the close of the preceding century.

For the defence of the port of Dover, Henry VIII. erected Archcliff fort, and Moat's battery, under the castle, as well as platforms for cannon.

Leland informs us that the town wall, at the period in question, was in a ruinous state, a portion of which could not be traced in several places.

In the 8th of Elizabeth, 1565, commissioners were appointed to survey the towns on the coast, when Dover, according to their report, contained only 358 houses, nineteen of which were uninhabited ; and that there were belonging to the port, twenty trading vessels, employing 300 seamen.

In the 4th of James I. the waste land below Snare gate, whence the sea had receded, having been granted by charter to the commissioners of the harbour, was soon covered with mansions and warehouses ; to include which additional buildings, it became necessary to make a new division of the wards, enumerated in the note annexed*.

The plague, which raged in London in 1665, was conveyed to

* Charlton : to the victualling-office.
Biggin. From the end of the town to Gardiner's lane.

Dover by a young person who had been employed there as a servant. By that calamity upwards of 900 persons fell victims, the dread of the infection being so great, that the bodies of the dead, in coffins, and more without, were carried to burial in carts. A plot of ground on the side hill, above Archcliff Fort, close to the new military hospital, was consecrated for that purpose: now called *The Graves.*

In November 1688, William, Prince of Orange, having sailed from Holland with an army and fleet of 500 ships and transports, cast anchor in this harbour, having on board his navy a train of English nobility and gentry, among whom were the famous historians, Rapin and Burnet. At Dover the prince called a council of war, and remained in the town till the following morning.

On the 1st of August, A.D. 1714, being the day when Queen Anne died, the Duke of Marlborough landed here ; her majesty's death being unknown either to the duke, the mayor, or corporation, by whom he was received with due solemnity.

George I., on a voyage from Holland to England, being overtaken by a violent storm, his fleet continued in imminent danger before the port of Dover, when his majesty was driven to the port of Rye, where he landed in safety.

In 1763, an Act was obtained for a turnpike road from Dover to Folkstone, which then entered the town at Archcliff Fort : however, about twenty years afterwards, a new cut was made

St. Mary's. From Gardiner's lane to Biggin gate.

Canon. From Biggin gate, the market included.

Morian. The street from the Market to Bench street, and the buildings on the left of Bench street.

Shingle and Nankins. St. James's side of the river, to Bean's corner.

Holvenden and Bulls. St. James's parish, above Bean's corner.

St. Nicholas, including St. George. Cowgate.

Snargate. All the right hand side of Bench street, to Snargate.

Hither part of North Pier. From Snargate, to Robinson's lane.

Lower Part of North Pier. From Robinson's lane, to the Dock, including over the wall.

Hither Part of South Pier. From the Dock to Vinegar Sluice, and thence across Paradise Pent, through the little alley adjoining Hudson's garden, to Thomas Pascall's.

Lower Part of South Pier. The remainder of the Pier not mentioned.

through the valley, by Maxton, adjoining the old road, about three miles from Dover.

On the 10th of August, 1768, the King of Denmark, and retinue, landed at Dover, who, after visiting the royal family of England, and various parts of the kingdom, returned to this town the 14th of October, when Mr. Fector, grandfather of the present heir, now in his minority, had the honour, on both occasions, of entertaining the royal visitant, in his hospitable mansion, at the old bank. Upon his departure, the king presented his courteous host with a gold box, curiously set in mosaic, as a testimony of respect for the courteous attention that had been displayed towards him.

On the 24th of February, 1772, an immense mass from Shakspeare's Cliff fell, with a tremendous crash, upon the beach, in consequence of which the road along the strand to Folkstone was completely blocked up. A few days previous, nearly 100 feet of the castle wall, opposite the town, was also precipitated into the ditch; when a building, recently erected near the cliff, also fell, the chalk beneath it having given way. Various falls of the cliff also took place in Snargate street about the same time; the alarm being so great, that numerous families abandoned their houses.

About the year 1777, Guildford Battery was erected, in the proximity of South Pier head; Townsend Battery, near the North head; together with North Battery, where the present ordnance-yard is situated: the latter, however, was soon destroyed by the operation of the sea.

An Act was obtained, in 1778, for paving, cleansing, lighting, and watching the town, whereby imposts of sixpence on every house, one shilling on every chaldron of coals imported, and a toll, equal to what the Turnpike Act allowed, payable at the gate on the London road, were levied. The taxes being inadequate, thirty-two years after, an Act was obtained whereby the duties on houses and coals was doubled.

In August 1780, was shot, upon Dover cliff, the beautiful bird called the *Hoopoe*, a species very seldom seen in this country. It frequents the woods of Europe, and is common in Germany: it sleeps in the winter, and is not visible until the spring. They are never seen here except in the summer, and, as soon as the young can fly, they usually migrate to a warmer climate.

In 1784, another Act was obtained for the recovery of small debts, above two and under forty shillings, for which purpose a court of requests is held on the first Tuesday in every month; the cognizance of the same extending not only over the liberties of the town and castle of Dover, but to the parishes of Charlton, Buckland, River, Ewell, Lydden, Coldred, East and West Langdon, Ringwould, Saint Margaret's at Cliff, Whitfield, Guston, Hougham, Capel le Ferne, and Alkham.

In 1796, an Act was obtained for a turnpike road from Dover to Sandwich, which route passes through Deal; soon after which another Act was obtained for a turnpike road from Dover, through Waldershare and Eastry, to Sandwich, which branches off from the London road, about three miles from Dover.

On the 23d of April, 1814, great preparations were made at Dover for the reception of Louis XVIII. on his restoration to the throne of France, after a banishment of upwards of twenty-one years. The military, on that occasion, lined the streets from the entrance of the town to the harbour, while a fleet was in the bay to receive him. Towards evening, the then Prince Regent, now his Majesty George IV., the Duke of Clarence, and several of the nobility, entered the town; and, soon after, the King of France, accompanied by a train of French princes, and the Duchess d'Angoulème. During the night, the prince regent slept at Mr. Fector's, and the King of France on board the royal sovereign yacht, moored close to the quay.

On the 6th of June, 1814, the Emperor of Russia and the King of Prussia, with splendid trains, landed at Dover, from Boulogne, attended by the Prince Royal of Prussia; Prince William, the king's brother; Prince Frederick, the king's nephew; Prince Augustus, the king's cousin; Marshal Blucher; Count Platoff, Hetman of the Cossacks; Baron Humbolt; Counts Hardenburgh and Nesselrode, Baron Anstet, Prince Adam Garldriske, General Czernicheff, Doctor Wylie, Sir Charles Stewart, Colonel Cook, Captain Wood, &c.

On the 26th of the same month, the royal strangers, accompanied by the emperor's sister, the Duchess of Oldenburg, again honoured Dover with their presence; when the Emperor of Russia proceeded to Mr. Fector's, and the King of Prussia to the York Hotel. On the following day, the latter, about twelve at noon, embarked on board the Nymphen frigate; and, at six

in the evening, the latter and his sister took their passage, the emperor on board the Queen Charlotte yacht, and the Duchess of Oldenburg on board the Jason frigate, for the continent.

On the 28th of June, the Rosario arrived in the roads, with the Duke of Wellington, who was conveyed in triumph to the Ship Inn.

Blucher and Platoff, having prolonged their visit to England, the former arrived at Dover on the 11th of July, and, having dined at the Ship Inn, sailed for Calais, in the Jason frigate. The latter entered the town on the 24th, and dined at the same hotel, after which he also took his departure in the Jason frigate for Calais.

On the 25th of May, 1818, their royal highnesses the Duke of Cumberland, and his bride, the late Duchess of Hesse, were received at Dover, under a royal salute; and on the 6th of September, the Duke and Duchess of Kent were alike welcomed, on their way for embarkation for the continent, with their suite, in the royal sovereign yacht.

On the 23d of April, 1819, the last-mentioned royal personages landed at Dover, under a royal salute; and on the 25th, the Persian ambassador came on shore, with his retinue.

Queen Caroline, accompanied by Lady Ann Hamilton and Alderman Wood, landed here, on the 5th of June, 1820, having been absent six years; being welcomed with a royal salute from the commandant of the garrison, who appointed her a guard of honour.

Among the late improvements that have taken place in Dover, an Act was obtained, in 1822, for lighting the town with gas, now in general use, not only in the streets, but most of the principal shops and inns, as well as many private houses.

In 1826, an Act was obtained for building a new fish-market, which was completed in 1827; great improvements having also been effected in the market-place.

The streets of Dover are irregular, and, in many places, narrow and inconvenient, which may be thus accounted for: as the sea receded, new rows of houses being built on the firm ground, which was irregular in the first instance, and left by the water, at intervals very remote from each other, in consequence, the position of such new erections, must have depended more upon chance, than any preconcerted plan.

Great improvements, however, may still be effected, and are now in rapid progress. The old houses are supplied by new mansions; the streets, well paved and lighted, being widened in many places; so that the lapse of a few years will give a more pleasing aspect to the whole town.

Among the SCARCE PLANTS found in and near Dover, the following have been observed:

The *Brassica Maritima arborea ceu procerior ramosa;* the Perennial sea colewort, or cabbage.

The *Cucubulus viscosus;* the Dover campion.

The *Lychnis major noctiflora Dubrensis perennis;* the great night flowering campion, found upon the cliffs.

Crithmum marinum, or the Rock Samphire, very plentiful midway down the cliffs, in particular that tremendous steep immortalized by Shakspeare.

Here are also several sorts of *Fucus,* or the sea pine.

HENRY CAREY, LORD HUNSDON, Viscount Rochford, was, by letters patent of King Charles I. in his 3d year, *created Earl of Dover.* He died in 1666, and his son, John, Earl of Dover, dying the year following, the title became *extinct.*

HENRY JERMYN, esq. second son of Thomas Jermyn, esq. elder brother of Henry Jermyn, Earl of St. Alban's, was, by letters patent of James II. in his 2d year, *created Baron of Dover;* but he dying in 1708, the title became *extinct.*

JAMES DOUGLAS, EARL OF QUEENSBURY, &c. in Scotland, was, by letters patent of Queen Anne, in her 7th year, A.D. 1708, *created Duke of Dover,* with other inferior English honours. He died in 1711, and was succeeded by his second, but oldest surviving son, Charles, who, in 1747, had been created Earl of Solway, &c. in Scotland. He died in 1778, when this title of Duke of Dover, &c. became *extinct.*

The greatest honour, however, to this town, was the birth of the illustrious statesman, Lord Chancellor Philip York, Earl of Hardwick, born at Dover, of ancestors who had been settled for many generations here. In 1788, he was, by letters patent,

created Lord Dover, Baron of Dover. He died in 1792, when this title became *extinct.*

The Honour of Peverel, otherwise De Dover, was so called from Jeffery de Peverel, who had certain lands given him for the defence of the castle, as before described, which, together, made up the above barony, likewise called De Dover, owing to its tenure to the castle. This eminent race flourished at Chilham, from the Conquest to the reign of Henry III.

In the Heraldic Visitation of Kent, A.D. 1619, is the pedigree of William Hart, of Dover, son of Ralph Hart, of Bristol:

Of the Family of Warde, descended from Philip Warde, of Dover, under Henry VII. whose grandson, John, was bailiff of this town, in the reign of Henry VIII.; he left a son, William, mayor of Dover in 1613, and lieutenant of the castle:

Of Edward Kempe, of Dover, son of Edward, mayor of this town: and

Of — Hannington, esq.

Previous to the Norman Conquest, it had been customary for the archbishops to appoint a *suffragan bishop,* or *chorepiscopus,* by way of coadjutor.

His office was to confirm children, bless altars, chalices, vestments, &c. to suspend from churches and places, and restore to them again; to consecrate new churches and altars; to confer all the lesser orders; consecrate the holy oil of *chrism,* and sacred unction; and perform all other things appurtenant to the episcopal office. These bishops generally bore the titles of foreign bishoprics, being merely nominal; and the archbishops appointed such suffragans, with foreign titles, down to the period of the Primate Warham, under Henry VIII. when John Thornton, prior of St. Martin's, in Dover, appears to have been constituted his suffragan, by the title of *Episcopus Sirimensis,* as was also Thomas Wellys, prior of St. Gregory's, by that of *Episcopus Sidoniensis.* In the 26th of Henry VIII. however, an Act passed for abrogating such foreign titles, stipulating that, from such time, they should be derived from particular towns in this kingdom, therein enumerated, whereof one was Dover; in future, therefore, the archbishops were styled *Bishops Suffragan of Dover:* the first of whom was

Richard Yngworth, prior of Langley Regis, in 1537.

Richard Thornden, otherwise *Stede,* in 1539, who died in

1558, being the last of Mary. On the accession of the latter princess, the Act under review was repealed, and foreign titles were, as usual, given to the suffragan bishops.

Thomas Chetham was consecrated *Episcopus Sidoniensis:* he was suffragan to Archbishop Pole, in the last year of Mary's reign. Under her successor, Elizabeth, the Act of Henry VIII. was revived, and

Richard Rogers, S.T.P. archdeacon of St. Asaph, was, in the 12th of her reign, consecrated *Bishop of Dover,* having acted as suffragan to the Primates Parker, Grindal, and Whitgift, in succession. He was subsequently dean of Canterbury, and died in 1597, being the last suffragan bishop of Dover.

THE HARBOUR. Any endeavour to ascertain the period when the tide flowed up between the hills of Dover, which was unquestionably the case on the arrival of Julius Cæsar, as before mentioned on several occasions, or in what progressive manner the channel became choked up with sand, beach, and the descending soil from the heights, so as to block up the entrance, and wholly impede the operation of the sea, it would be superfluous to inquire. Be this as it may, the loose soil is apparent to a considerable depth below the existing surface; and some few years back, in sinking a well near Dolphin lane, after excavating to the depth of twenty-one feet, a bed of mud was discovered, similar to that now existing in the harbour: the mud in question was intermixed with leaves and fibres of roots, being three feet thick; and, no doubt, formed the bed of the harbour. Similar masses of sand and beach have, likewise, been found in various parts of the neighbouring valley.

An old tradition, from an ancient manuscript at Sandwich, states that Arviragus, a contemporary of Claudius Cæsar, filled up the mouth of the haven, to prevent the entrance of the Roman fleet; but we have no proofs of the authenticity of that account.

When William the Conqueror extended the wall towards the east, the harbour then occupied the ground on the lower part of

Drawn by Geo. Shepherd

THE PIER AND HARBOUR, DOVOR.

FROM THE HEIGHTS ABOVE THE TOWN.

Woolcomber street; at which period, the fishermen drew their boats on shore, and dried their nets, on a plot of ground between the wall and the cliff, now covered with dwellings. The deep cavity of the harbour, filled and elevated in order to be level with the mansions lately erected towards the sea, was discernible at the close of the last century; extending from the back of Liverpool terrace, in a straight line to the gasometer.

Dover haven was in constant use from the Conquest till the reign of Henry VII. but no documents are extant to designate the changes that must naturally have occurred during 400 years.

The harbour, at Woolcomber street, had become useless in 1500, and the mariners were compelled to seek shelter for their vessels on the opposite side of the bay, beneath a projecting point of land, upon which Archcliff fort was subsequently erected. The sea, then, covered the whole bay, washing the bases of the cliffs where Snargate street now stands, and flowing nearly as high as the town wall.

We are informed, by Mr. Batcheller, that Mr. Hight, in constructing the wine vaults for Mr. Worthington, in Snargate street, when excavating the ground for a bonded vault, at about ten feet from their entrance, discovered, in the fissures of the rock, the beach that had been washed in by the force of the waves; and, at a few feet farther from the entrance, masses of beach were clearly discernible; affording a convincing proof, that the sea formerly washed against the base of the cliffs in question.

John Clark, master of the *Maison Dieu*, being provided with funds by Henry VII. erected a wall of chalk and earth, in a direct line from Archcliff fort to the South Pier head, as far as the floodgates, or little basin, not long since constructed; where he built a round tower, the foundations of which were discovered on the floodgates being constructed, in 1813. Another round tower was also raised, in the intermediate space, in Round Tower street; the foundations still remaining beneath three houses, built by Mr. Church in 1798, as well as under a storehouse belonging to Mr. Reynolds. The towers in question not only secured seamen from danger, but the internal space was so pleasant as to acquire the name of Little Paradise.

Before the year 1530, the eastern tower was overthrown by the waves, and the wall fractured in many places; upon which

Sir John Thompson, master of the Maison Dieu, aware of the distress to which the seamen were subjected, drew the plan of a more substantial and extensive work, which was presented to Henry VIII.; and being approved by the king, the latter advanced £500, and the undertaking was commenced in 1533.

The first works, enclosing a small basin, with a quay for shipping merchandise, were confined to a narrow area in Paradise pent.

Two projectures, one entitled Chapel, and the other Stoneham's Groin, were built on the south side of the pier, being secured by blocks of chalk. This work extended nearly to the site of the existing South head, to the Black bulwark, whereon it was intended to erect a platform for cannon. The foundation extended about twenty rods farther, and is still visible at low water, being called the Mole Rock. Having expended £50,000 (though the Dering MS. says £80,000) on those works, Henry died in 1547, leaving the undertaking unfinished; and, as no provision had been made to keep them in repair, the sea made breaches in the wall, and banks of beach accumulated in the bay.

During the short reign of Edward VI. nothing further was undertaken; and, although Mary granted letters patent to collect money throughout England, for the reparation of Dover harbour, the amount procured was insufficient to answer the purpose intended. The banks of beach then increased to such a degree, that boats drawing only four feet water could not enter, upon which the timber and ironwork were stolen by the distressed inhabitants.

The most pressing applications were subsequently made to Queen Elizabeth upon this subject; when Sir Walter Raleigh considered this harbour of such importance as to present a memorial to her majesty on the subject.

The document alluded to was seconded by the Corporation, who assured the queen that her houses, still occupying the ground left by the sea, which were let on lease in her majesty's name, would be washed away, and the harbour completely ruined, unless sums were granted for immediate reparations. The queen attended to those representations, and granted to the town a free exportation of 30,000 quarters of wheat, 10,000 quarters of barley or malt, and 4,000 tons of beer; which patent was sold to John Bird and Thomas Watts, who gave for the same £8666 13 4.

Ten commissioners, all gentlemen of Kent, were then appointed to superintend the work, who made choice of a surveyor. A wall of stone, 200 rods in length, was in consequence built from above the watergate, where the river now enters the pent, nearly to the Black bulwark, being the present South Pier head. A firm ridge of beach had then been formed between the two points behind which the wall was to stand, enclosing, towards the land, the river which, flowing along the ridge, emptied itself at the mouth of the harbour.

These works proving inadequate, one Thomas Diggs, an engineer and mathematician, well versed in the construction of the ports in the Netherlands, addressed a memorial to the queen, and presented three plans for her majesty's inspection. One was to extend the pier a considerable distance into the sea; another to enclose the whole bay from Archcliff fort to the castle cliff, with an entrance, and fortified towers in the centre; and a third, to excavate the ground, and form a harbour, in the meadows above the town.

Elizabeth having considered those plans, an Act was passed in 1580, granting three pence per ton on every vessel, loading or unloading in any port within the realm, for seven years; three half-pence for each chaldron of coals, and the same sum for every grindstone landed for sale; which sums were to be applied to the use of Dover harbour. Previous to the close of 1581, a dreadful tempest drove the sea over the wall, and completely choked up the entrance at the Black bulwark; the harbour in Paradise pent being also filled with mud and beach.

It does not appear why the plans of Mr. Diggs were not acted upon, but they were probably too expensive; yet others were pursued with such improvements as Mr. Diggs suggested. This work was commenced in May 1583; when, instead of stone, it was resolved to construct walls similar to those at Dymchurch, which prevent the sea entering Romney Marsh, from which district labourers repaired to assist. The sides were constructed of mud, covered with faggots fixed down with piles, the middle being filled up with chalk.

The long wall extended 120 rods from above the watergate, down what is now the ropewalk, near the York Hotel; that wall being seventy feet wide at the bottom, and forty at the top. The cross wall extended forty rods, near the present York Hotel,

passing the present Union Hotel, extending nearly to the cliff. The wall in question was ninety feet wide at the bottom, and fifty at the top; both were completed in less than three months, the expenditure being only £2700. A small sluice was formed near the existing bridge, at the bottom of the Great pent; but, the only canal whereby vessels could pass into the New pent, flowed round the western side of the present Union Hotel, and, passing between the site where Strond street and the cliff now stand, entered Paradise pent. The canal then passed on, occupying the ground whereon Mr. Ismay's premises have since been erected, and ultimately emptied itself at the mouth of the present harbour.

At the upper part of the canal, by the Union Hotel, a lock with floodgates was formed for the admission of vessels into the Great pent, and to preserve the water. From that spot, a jetty, composed of two rows of piles filled with blocks of chalk, was formed on the eastern side of the canal, where Strond street has since been built, continuing down to Paradise pent. At the lower part of Paradise pent, near Mr. Ismay's buildings, another lock and gates, twenty-four feet wide and seventeen high, were constructed, with a stone sluice on the west side. The former of those locks, with its appendages, was estimated at £795; and the latter, with a storehouse and the queen's effigy in front, at £1000. Below the gates, at the entrance of Paradise pent, was constructed an angular jetty, which included the site of the dwellings eastward of Mr. Minet's mansion, the angular point being near the present crane.

The water, pent in by the gates, and guided by the jetties, was let out when the tide was down, thus completely cleansing the beach from the entrance of the harbour; but such was the velocity of the current, as to injure the foundation of the Black bulwark and the Groin, so that both were speedily in a very ruinous condition.

In 1592, numerous repairs took place, and the following year works were also constructed to protect the long wall from the fury of the waves in tempestuous weather.

In 1594, jetties were constructed from Colebran's head to Paradise pent, the two pier heads being also repaired, and farther extended into the sea.

The present intention is occasionally to convey the whole

weight of backwater through Great Paradise, or the basin, in order that it may act with encreased force at the entrance of the harbour. In 1597, the small sluice, at the bottom of the great pent, was taken up, and another, thirteen feet deep, sixteen broad, and eighty long, substituted.

In order to defend the above works, Archcliff fort commanded the south-west; cannon, on the Black bulwark and Round tower, secured the entrance of the harbour; there being also a large battery on the long wall, and another under the castle, which flanked the bay; while an open space was reserved near the pier, to assemble the forces, whence they might march to any point on the shortest notice. Dover, being thus defended, was esteemed as impregnable as Antwerp, Flushing, or any town on the coast of the Netherlands.

On the death of Elizabeth, A.D. 1603, the corporation managed the affairs of the harbour, and claimed the waste land abandoned by the ocean.

King James I. demanded the resignation of their claims, and power, in regard to harbour affairs; and, in 1606, gave a charter of incorporation, under the title of "Warden and Assistants of Dover Harbour." The lord warden, the lieutenant of the castle, and the mayor of the town, act as principals; eight more being chosen to assist.

They possess the power of filling up vacancies, and have a common seal, that used at present not having been made till 1646. It is of silver, of an oval form, with the arms of the Port within a shield, carrying this inscription: "*Dover Harbour, anno Dom.* 1646." The warden, &c. select their officers, appoint a house of council, frame by-laws, inflict penalties, &c. The land below Snargate, westward to Archcliff fort, and that eastward to Moat's battery, under the castle, left by the sea, was by the same charter given for the use of the harbour, being let for a term of years on harbour leases.

In 1635 a memorial was presented to Charles I. and £2000 requested for repairs; to compass which advance, the king granted an impost on foreigners entering their goods at this harbour. The port was then kept in good repair till 1652, but, nine years after, a memorial was presented to Charles II. wherein the dilapidated state of the harbour was depicted, followed by a statement that the whole must speedily be involved in ruin,

unless repairs were set on foot without delay. The result was the passing an Act, but the whole money raised did not exceed £30,000. The existing basin was then formed, by raising the lower cross wall, an opening being left thirty-eight feet wide, wherein were placed two gates, in order to retain the water, or admit vessels. Sluices were also constructed on either side, intended to convey the whole force of backwater in that direction, so as to operate effectually in clearing the opening to the harbour; the turnwater between the pier heads being completed at the same period.

In consequence of the latter improvements, the canal that traversed Paradise pent was useless, and when filled up, became a waste unhealthy swamp, in which state it remained upwards of a century. The ground, however, being occasionally raised, became firm, and houses were built; but the progress was very slow until the year 1798, when, to remedy the nuisance, the warden, &c. of the harbour offered ninety-nine years' leases to such as would raise the ground, and erect dwellings on the site. This inducement succeeded, the water being speedily confined to a narrow channel. To clear off the back springs, a communication was opened under Mr. Ismay's premises, and the tide, in consequence, continues to flow in; but the whole was arched over in 1823, and the ground covered by dwellings.

In 1689, merchantmen valued at £140,000, were driven by a tempest into this harbour, which must have foundered, or been taken, had they not availed themselves of this port for an asylum. In 1693 many transports were likewise saved; while Charles II. attributed his maritime successes in a great measure to the security which Dover harbour afforded to his fleets.

In 1699, under William III. the port was again in danger of becoming useless, as packet boats sailing thence to the continent could no longer enter in safety; wherefore the captains petitioned that they might be empowered to land the mails at Deal.

An Act was, therefore, obtained to raise supplies, when the commissioners borrowed £6000. On the 1st of May, 1717, they had expended £20136 13 1, the Act, which then expired, having only produced £20896 5, the harbour still continuing in a dilapidated state: the Act was, in consequence, ordered to remain in force for ten years longer.

During that period Captain Perry advised that the South head

should be extended 150 feet beyond that to the North, and two or three jetties constructed west of the harbour, and five or six to the east. He estimated that those works would cost £35,000, being a larger sum than could be raised; wherefore, nothing was effected but the repairs of Cheeseman's head, west of the piers.

In 1736 two thirds of the tonnage duty was transferred from Dover to the haven of Rye, the average of tonnage duty during twelve years of peace, having been about £2,526 per annum; and, during the same number of years of war, £1,300 per annum. From the above period until the year ensuing, only necessary repairs were attempted; but, in 1737, and the two years ensuing, the lower cross wall was faced with Portland stone, new gates were furnished at the entrance to the basin, additional sluices supplied on either side, and a swing bridge was erected for foot passengers.

In 1753, a head, 176 feet in length, was constructed beneath the castle cliff, to prevent the pebbles being driven out of the bay. However, notwithstanding so much labour and expense, the harbour was still very incomplete; wherefore, the commissioners, in 1769, appointed Mr. Smeaton to inspect the works, who proposed an extension of the South head sixty feet farther into the sea; and, in the event of failure, and that the pebbles still continued collecting at the entrance of the harbour, the erection of sluices to force them away.

In 1782, Mr. Nickalls being consulted, complained that the harbour was incapable of admitting ships of war; that the water at the apron, in the lower cross wall, was only ten feet six inches deep at neap tides; that the sill of the gates was eighteen inches too high; the declivity of the Great pent too great; the enclosed water being only 47,160 tons, at neap tides, was not calculated to form a body more than thirty inches deep in the outer harbour, when let out as expeditiously as possible, and that such a force was not equivalent to clear the obstructions from the entrance of the port.

That engineer, in consequence, proposed an enlargement of the space of the Great pent to thirteen acres and a half; that the sill at the lower cross wall should be deepened, and the bed of the pent and basin sunk to a level with the same. He further advised the formation of a canal above the new bridge, that a sluice should deliver the backwater with such velocity as to cleanse

the pent, basin, and outer harbour; that the pier heads should be extended 200 feet, each to be furnished with canals sufficient for the discharge of 16,000 tons of water every minute, so as to drive all obstructions before the current; by what means the backwater was to have been conveyed to those canals, is not explained. Having been subjected to such improvements, it was affirmed, the haven would be capable of containing 300 sail of ships; that frigates of the largest size might ride at anchor; and a sixty-gun ship enter the dock, near the new bridge, at spring-tides; the expenditure being calculated at £60,000.

After Mr. Nickalls had been employed for several years, his endeavours not appearing to give general satisfaction, that gentleman was dismissed, and his plans altogether abandoned.

Mr. Oxenden, afterwards Sir Henry, then undertook to direct the works; who, in 1791, rebuilt sixty-five feet of the eastern extremity of the North head, at which period the harbour was in a very respectable condition.

In 1802 the old part of the South head being in a dangerous state, Messrs. Walker and Rennie were employed, who proposed that it should be extended 200 feet beyond the North pier, which was, however, rejected.

The revenues of this harbour in 1807 were much improved, owing to the old tonnage duty being restored. Three pence per ton was also demanded of shipping, from 20 to 300 tons, that should pass from, to, or by Dover, or entering the port, with the exception of ships in ballast, or laden with coals, grindstone, purbeck, or portland stones; from which one half-penny only was demanded for each chaldron of coals, as well as every ton of grindstone, purbeck, or portland stones.

In 1808 the old work inside the North head was thrown down by a tempest; after which, Mr. Moon, the harbour master, rebuilt 195 feet of that head, in a very masterly and substantial manner.

Dover harbour, unlike ports formed by the mouths of large rivers, is an artificial construction; those employed in its preservation having to contend against the violence of the weather, and the angry billows of the deep, which combine to choke it up; thus requiring, from time to time, the talents and exertions of the best engineers, to counteract their united baleful effects. The principal difficulty arises from the shifting of a bar of shingle,

Drawn by Geo. Shepherd.

Engraved by Garner

THE QUAY AT DOVER.

KENT

AND WRIGHTS HOTEL.

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which a south-westerly wind, in particular, urges to the harbour mouth. Such having proved a constant impediment, the attention of Mr. Moon was engaged, who, in prosecuting the works intrusted to him, displayed the greatest talents as an engineer. Having for a series of years occupied himself in improving the means devised for clearing the mouth of the port, he, in 1811, proposed to the board a plan, which was honoured by the decided approbation of the warden, &c. and he was, in consequence, deputed to proceed to its immediate execution.

The extraordinary works carried on under the direction of Mr. Moon, were nearly completed in 1822, and their execution will remain a lasting proof of the consummate abilities of the gentleman who projected and superintended them. The two outer branches of the culverts were tried on the 27th of January of the above year, and found to cut off most effectually the bar of beach close to the Pier head.

The construction of the third or inner branch of the culverts, has been delayed in consequence of a reduction having taken place in the income of the harbour, which, during five years preceding 1822, was £1700, the rates from vessels entering the harbour £1150, and those passing the harbour £10,150, averaging an annual income of £13,000. During the last five years, £23,500 have been borrowed, and £3000 prior to that time, making a total of £26,500, at an annual interest of £1500. The total sum expended during that period, amounted to £81,500.

The following is an account of the number of ships, and their tonnage, which entered the harbour from the 1st of January, 1808, till the 31st of December, 1827.

Came in and consigned to Dover .	9743 ships,	748320 tons.
Came in for shelter, or in distress .	5448	557332
Total	15191	1305652

His majesty's vessels, hired cruizers, victualling, ordnance, and all vessels belonging to Dover, being excepted.

From the time of granting the charter, in 1606, till the year 1812, the harbour leases, with some few exceptions, were renewable every twenty-one years; and, though the whole rents, at

2s. 6d. in the pound, and about one third of the actual valuation, amounted to nearly £700 annually, the property was considered to be nearly as good as freehold.

In 1812, the leases being called in, new ones were granted at 3s. 6d. in the pound, on the annual value of the property, for sixty-one years, remuneration being allowed to those whose leases continued unexpired. New houses and improvements are still in progress, as the ground is now nearly covered with buildings; the new lodging-houses erected on the parade, being granted on leases for ninety-nine years.

DOVER, as previously observed, was the first of the Cinque Ports incorporated by a charter; it had, from the remotest period, enjoyed special privileges, the whole of which were confirmed under Edward I. by whose charter the corporation was recognised by the title of the MAYOR AND COMMONALTY.

The mayor, by virtue of those privileges, was, in former times, chosen from the general body of the commonalty, or freemen; after which, he selected from that body twelve assistants, sworn into office under the title of jurats. The mayor, jurats, and freemen, then elected their town clerk, and other officers; the functions of each continuing for one year only, when they proceeded to a new election. These privileges continued till the 16th of Henry VIII. when it was resolved in a court of brotherhood, held at Romney, that thirty-seven persons in each port, and twenty-four in every corporate town, should assume the right of electing their mayor, jurats, &c. a penalty of fifty-pence, or imprisonment, being the punishment, in case a freeman not forming one of the above number, should presume to vote. Such an arbitrary measure, although strenuously opposed, continued in force till the 4th of Edward VI. when a meeting was called, and the principle admitted that no by-law, sanctioned only by a few individuals, or even an act of a court of brotherhood, contrary to the wishes, and detrimental to the rights, of the freemen at large, could annul a chartered prerogative, or a law of the land; after which the ancient mode of electing a mayor, &c. was again resorted to. This method continued in force till the 17th

v Geo Shepherd

THE MARINE PARADE.

AND CÆSARS TOWER AT DOVER

of Elizabeth, at which period, some leading men of Dover having the sanction of the privy council, again succeeded in restricting the franchise to themselves, which is described by Mr. Batchel-ler in the following manner:

"By the blowing of a horn, on the seventh day of September, 1758, a public meeting was convened at the town hall; and it was there enacted that, in order to avoid future contentions in electing a chief magistrate, the mayor and jurats should assemble annually on the 8th of September, at nine o'clock in the morning, and nominate five persons from their own body, (the mayor whose functions ceased on the following noon to be always one of them,) out of which number, in order to retain the appearance of popular choice, the commons were to elect a chief magistrate for the year ensuing. It was also enacted, at the same time, that the mayor and jurats should fill up their number from the common council; that they should elect, from their own body, the bailiff to Yarmouth, the burgesses to parliament, and the bearers of the royal canopy; and that they should choose the several officers of the town, except the pounder, and the mayor's serjeant, who were to be elected by the mayor."

The singular document containing those enactments still exists, but is neither signed by the mayor, a jurat, a single freeman, or even the town clerk; nevertheless it carried all the authority of law, threatening with fine and imprisonment all such as should dare attempt its violation.

At the period alluded to, Elizabeth governed the corporation with as much severity, as the latter body could adopt in regard to the town; since it appears from the monument of William Hannington, in Hougham church, that he twice officiated as mayor of Dover, by command of the queen.

This received custom continued during sixty-six years, being the 20th of Charles I. when the freemen recovered their ancient rights, which they continued to enjoy under the Commonwealth, until 1670, being the 11th of Charles II.

In the above year some of the principal inhabitants of Dover made a successful effort to carry their point, and nominated John Matson, the late mayor, and four of the jurats; the free-men equally nominating a candidate, who was approved by a great majority of votes. In direct contempt of such a result, the magistrates forwarded the state of the poll to the king, who

declared the election void, ordering them to proceed to a fresh nomination.

A charter, as previously mentioned, was subsequently granted by that monarch, wherein he reserved to himself the right of displacing those who might be put in authority, which was deemed unconstitutional; and his charters, therefore, were considered voidable, if controverted; and, on that account, they were uniformly reprobated in our courts of justice.

Hasted observes, "That this charter, as well as another granted by King James II. and forced on the Corporation, being made wholly subservient to the king's own purposes, were annulled by proclamation, October 17, 1788." And he further states, "That this proclamation was made, to make null and void all charters granted between the years 1670 and 1688, and for restoring all Corporations to their ancient rights and privileges."

According to Mr. Lyon, this charter was disowned, either by those who received it, or their immediate successors; and was not acknowledged when King William III. came to the crown. The leading men of Dover then denominated themselves a Corporation by prescription, power being vested in them to make by-laws, for the better government of the town.

"The term, by-laws," says Mr. Batcheller, "implying as it appears to do, the idea of *imperium in imperio*, is so vague, that we cannot understand it, nor do we know either their extent in affecting the liberty, property, or life of those who are subject to them, or how they can be enacted without the general consent of the freemen, for whose benefit they appear to have been intended."

The Corporation of Dover consists of a mayor, who also acts as coroner by virtue of his office, twelve jurats, and twenty-four common council men. Four of the jurats are appointed by the Corporation, out of which number the mayor is chosen, on the 8th of September, by the resident freemen, each of whom receives one shilling, on giving his vote; and the officers of the town are chosen by the Corporation.

The Corporation seal is round, and of brass, having been engraved in 1305. Upon the obverse is an antique vessel, with a bowsprit, and mast having a pennon of three tails; the sail furled; a forecastle, poop, and round top, all embattled; with

the steersman at the helm: two men on the forecastle are in the act of blowing trumpets, another climbing up the shrouds, and two below at a rope; a flag at the stern is charged with the Port arms, and inscribed, *Sigillvm commvne baronvm de Dovoria, the common seal of the barons of Dover.* On the reverse is St. Martin on horseback, passing through the gate of Amiens, and dividing his cloak with his sword, to clothe a mendicant half naked, and supporting himself on a crutch. The whole within an orle of lions passant gardant, in separate compartments as regards one another.

The old seal of the mayoralty is of silver, representing the same legend of St. Martin within a quatrefoil, with four demi-ships conjoined, and four demi-lions in orle, bearing this inscription, *Sigillum maoratvs portvs Dovorr, the seal of mayoralty of the port of Dover.* The seal now used is of steel, representing the saintly legend above described, with nearly the same inscription.

There are likewise two seals composed of steel, one somewhat larger than the other, and formerly used in the Ports register-office for seamen, having been engraved in 1696. They bear an anchor enfiled with a tower, and four more other turrets; forming with the first a quincunx, between the stock and flukes. The larger seal has also a ship of three masts under sail in chief; inscribed *The Cinque Ports Register for seamen.*

The seal of the chancery and admiralty courts is of silver, representing a man-of-war of two decks under sail, with an ensign, and flags at the main and mizen masts' heads, all charged with the cross of St. George, and a pendant at the foretopmast head, passing by a castle on a hill, with a union flag displayed, accompanied with this inscription, *Magnum sigillum castri Dover et cvriarvm cancellaræ et admiralitatis quinque portuum, the great seal of Dover castle, and of the courts of chancery and admiralty of the Cinque Ports.*

The register of the castle has two seals nearly alike, with a castle of three towers; without any inscription. These are used for sealing writs.

Brown Willis gives a curious account of the device on the common seal. "It is," he says, "a highwayman robbing a man on foot."

Hasted says, vol. ix. p. 514, "the arms of the Corporation

of Dover are, *Sable a cross, argent, between four leopards' faces, or:* these being the same arms as were borne by the priory of Dover."

Dover sends two members to Parliament, every freeman, whether resident or nonresident, having a vote, unless disqualified by law. In ancient times, the writ was sent to the barons and bailiffs, when those who were elected had a stipend allowed, to defray their expenses during the session; it being understood that they were to act in accordance with the wishes of their constituents. For the purpose of avoiding the expense, some towns omitted to make their returns: and in the reign of Henry VI. Dover agreed to receive forty shillings yearly from the mayor and jurats of Faversham, when the Corporation had the privilege of naming a person, once in three or four years, to represent this town in Parliament.

Nearly at the same period, A.D. 1443, the inhabitants of the Cinque Ports petitioned that their representatives should be permitted to return home, after being absent four weeks; or that a few only might continue at court, according to ancient custom; indeed such proved their neglect, in returning the writs, that they were subsequently forwarded to the governor of Dover castle, in order to ensure more regularity.

It appears that the freemen of this town preserved the privilege of voting till 1561, when the mayor, jurats, and common council assumed to themselves the right of returning the members to Parliament, without consulting the freemen, or taking their votes; which practice they pursued for upwards of sixty years.

In 1623, the freemen petitioned the Commons against the return of Sir Edward Cecil, and Sir Richard Young, knts.; when the house resolved, "That the freemen and free burgesses of Dover, ought to have voice in the election;" and the return was, in consequence, declared void, and a new writ ordered accordingly. This precedent was further sanctioned, in 1729, by an Act of Parliament, whereby all prior decisions of that house respecting controverted elections were confirmed. After the

above decision, the resident freemen were allowed to exercise their elective franchise; the votes of nonresidents having been received or rejected, at the discretion of the Corporation.

When the Right Honourable Buffy Villiers was raised to the peerage, in 1770, Sir Thomas Pym Hales, bart. and John Trevanion, esq. put up for the vacant seat; on which occasion, nonresidents were allowed to vote, Sir Thomas obtaining a majority; while Mr. Trevanion had most of the resident freemen. The latter gentleman, therefore pleaded, that nonresidents had no right to vote; whereas, the Commons resolved, "That the non-inhabitant freemen had voices in the election, equally with the inhabitant freemen."

At the election in 1826, Messrs. Wilbraham, Thomson, Halcomb, and Butterworth, being the candidates, Mr. Thomson stood second on the poll, including the nonresidents, and was returned; Mr. Halcomb standing second, had the residents only voted. A petition was then presented, when the result proved favorable to Mr. Thomson.

In 1828, William Henry Trant, esq. was returned, having obtained a majority of the freemen generally, the majority of the resident freemen having voted for John Halcomb, esq. The latter gentleman then founded his objection to the return, on the original resolution of the Commons in 1623, which was sanctioned by law in 1729, it being then pronounced that the freemen *inhabitants* of Dover, had a voice in the election. On that account, Mr. Halcomb imagined the right was solely vested in the *inhabitants*, excluding *nonresidents*: and that the decision of Parliament, in 1770, had been contrary to law, and erroneous. The house, however, confirmed the return of Mr. Trant; stating that the word, *inhabitants*, did not exclude the *non-inhabitants*, both having alike the privilege of voting.

The freedom of Dover is acquired either by birth, servitude, marriage, purchase, or burgage tenure: but the franchise, if by marriage, ends with the death of the wife; or, if by tenure, with the alienation of the freehold. The number of freemen is estimated at about 1400 residents, and 900 nonresidents, making a total of about 2300.

The Hundred Court, or General Sessions and Jail Delivery, takes cognizance of criminal actions committed

within the franchise, and is empowered to inflict punishment of death. The mayor, assisted by the recorder, jurats, and town clerk, presides; having sole right to pronounce sentence. A court is usually held, by adjournment, every fifteen days; capital offences, however, are tried twice in the course of the year.

In speaking of the existing state of Dover, we must first observe that, in consequence of its south-eastern aspect, it possesses every advantage requisite in a seaport, without the inconvenience of that excessive cold to which many others are subjected.

With reference to the principal edifices of this town, it appears that, in former times, a cross stood in the market-place; which, according to its representation preserved in an ancient plan of the town, was but a mean structure, having a cross on the summit. On the site of this structure was raised, upon massy pillars, the present TOWN HALL, beneath which is held the market. It is a spacious edifice, containing a second chamber, for the Grand Jury, the walls being decorated by some good portraits.

The grotesque figures on the pillars supporting this building, proclaim its antiquity; it has, however, undergone many alterations; and the sides are now covered with mathematical tiles, adorned with large Venetian windows, giving to the whole a very modern appearance.

THE THEATRE was erected in 1790, by a company of gentlemen, who advanced £50 each in transferable shares. It stands in Snargate street, and is usually open for theatrical representations, from September till the close of March. Subscription assemblies are held monthly, during the winter; and occasionally, dancing and card assemblies, during the summer.

At the period when the former CUSTOM-HOUSE, which occupied the spot where the bank of Minet, Fector, and Co. now stands, was falling to decay, a spacious edifice was erected in 1806, contiguous to the harbour. All goods imported, or for exporta-

tion, as well as baggage from passage or other vessels, are conveyed thither for examination. The towns of Folkstone and Romney being within the jurisdiction of the Customs of Dover, the business carried on at the custom-house is very extensive.

The New Jail, standing in the market-place, was erected on the site of the old prison, and a very solid built house, formerly called Tinkers' Hall, afterwards used as a charity school and private dwelling. The first stone of the new jail was laid on the 8th of September, 1820, by Sir Thomas Mantell, knt. whose mayoralty terminated on that day.

The Fellowship of Trinity Pilots was established, under the direction of the court of Loadmanage, in 1515; the employment of its members being to pilot ships into the rivers Thames and Medway. At the first period of their institution, they were established at Sandwich, when the fellowship issued an order, that no person, unless under their licence, should be permitted to pilot any vessel into, or out of the havens of Dover or Sandwich.

In 1689, William III. restored their ancient right, of choosing a master or warden from their own body; that monarch having appointed the lord warden of the Cinque Ports; the mayors of Dover and Sandwich; and the captains of Deal, Walmer, and Sandown castles, for the time being, to act as commissioners of Loadmanage.

The pilots, in 1699, obtained an order of vestry, for leave to rebuild, for their own use, the gallery, at the west end of the middle aisle, in St. Mary's church; and, in 1748, they gave £20 to the parish, for leave to obtain a faculty, to hold the same, as long as they kept it in repair at their own cost.

In the 3d year of George I. an Act passed, authorising the establishment of fifty pilots at Dover, the same number at Deal, and twenty in the Isle of Thanet; since which period, the mayor of Sandwich has been left out of the commission, which is held by the other officers.

In 1801, an Act passed, whereby the number of pilots at Dover was increased to sixty-four, who divided into two classes; namely, *Upper Book*, consisting of those who have been longest on the list, from which class the wardens are chosen; and *Lower*

Book, comprising those last appointed, who rise to the Upper Book by seniority. Those of the Upper Book formerly piloted all vessels drawing more than eleven feet six inches water; the charge being regulated by the tonnage.

The lord warden, as admiral of the Ports, holds his court of Loadmanage, for regulating the Fellowship, and appointing pilots at Dover, Deal, Margate, and Ramsgate. The instrument whereby pilots are admitted, is called a *Branch*, whereto is affixed the seal of admiralty and chancery.

The members of this valuable fraternity are a credit to the profession they follow, and held in the highest repute by their fellow-citizens. Many years back, they established a fund, from which, in case of death, their widows receive £12 a year for life, while they continue unmarried.

In 1789, the gentlemen of Dover raised a subscription for a Charity School, calculated to receive forty boys and twenty girls, the latter being soon increased to thirty. As the master and mistress were then paid at the rate of £1 for each child, the stipend was not deemed a sufficient remuneration; wherefore, the number was progressively increased to sixty-five boys and forty-five girls.

The school was continued in this manner until 1820, when the trust, in consequence of accumulated funds, donations, and subscriptions, was enabled to erect a more spacious school, and dwelling, in Queen street, for the master and mistress; when the establishment was removed from the site of the present jail, in the market-place. The existing schoolrooms are sufficiently large to contain 200 of each sex; the edifice itself being an ornament to the town. This charity is extended to all the poor children of Dover and the surrounding villages. A sermon is preached annually in the two parishes of Dover, for the support of the funds; the whole charity being maintained by voluntary contributions.

Under the patronage of the ladies of Dover, a School of Industry was established in 1818, for the education of sixty girls. Tuition was first given in a private dwelling, in Queen street; but a new building was subsequently erected in 1827, above Cow gate.

In 1826, an INFANT AND SUNDAY SCHOOL was established, in Fivepost lane; but afterwards removed to Queen street. It is now proposed to erect a building for this purpose, in Above Wall street, where the infants will be taught on Sundays and during the week.

Dover possesses some excellent libraries, among which may be particularised that entitled, The King's Arms, in Snargate street, contiguous to the parade, which was erected by Mr. Batcheller, in 1826. It contains upwards of 5000 volumes, comprising a very choice selection of works, in every department of literature; there being also a handsome saloon, for the accommodation of subscribers, where the London newspapers, reviews, and magazines, are supplied. Over the library, commanding a magnificent view of the ocean and harbour, is an Assembly Room, very tastefully fitted up, which is numerously attended by all the fashionable residents and visitors of this town.

As Dover boasts the advantages of a pure sea, fine beach, and salubrious air, this place very justly aspires to equal rank with the rest of the towns upon the same coast, when considered in the light of a resort for sea-bathing; indeed, as regards the purity of its water, it is more favored by nature than some of its rivals. Bathing machines, accompanied by every convenience and accommodation, are stationed in the bay; there are also hot and cold baths properly fitted up, and the water changed for every person who bathes, being provided at any hour and at the shortest notice. However, in the event of Dover becoming the resort of more company than at present, it is difficult to imagine where room will be found for an increase of buildings, as the town is so completely cooped up between the hills, and enclosed by lofty and perpendicular cliffs.

From the peculiar circumstances of its situation, the military force constantly stationed here, the facility afforded for embarkation, the establishment of regular packets, and its intercourse with the Continent, Dover is uniformly crowded with strangers.

Owing to the above circumstances, the proprietors of the various hotels and inns have spared neither pains or expense, in rendering their respective establishments commodious, while conveyances of every description are at all times procured with the greatest facility.

From Dover Heights, rising westward of the town; Dover itself appears as in a vale beneath, presenting a very interesting and romantic *coup d'œil.* In the year 1803, very strong military works were constructed on this eminence, and extensive barracks for the reception of troops. The harbour and shore lying directly within the range of the batteries, are completely defended, and commanded by them; their appearance being very formidable and imposing. The lofty steep whereon they are built, not only flanks, but literally overshadows the town, on that side, so that many of the houses, in one of the principal streets, appear to be in continual danger from the falling of the cliff which rises perpendicularly to an amazing height, close to their walls; and in some places, nods over the very roofs. Accidents, however, are of very rare occurrence, for the substance of the hill being chalk, and the surface remaining undisturbed, little water is admitted, wherefore, the solid mass suffers scarcely any alteration from atmospherical changes, heat, moisture, or even frost. Notwithstanding this, portions of the cliff sometimes give way, and during the severe winter of 1814, a large mass overwhelmed one of the cottages at its base, but fortunately without personal injury to the inhabitants. A pig-sty, that had been buried beneath the fallen ruins, was discovered, after *several months,* with a sow therein, when the poor animal, although destitute of any other food besides the litter on which she lay, was dug out alive, but in a singularly emaciated condition, and entirely bereft of bristles.

An ascent has been made from the town to the *Heights,* by means of a spiral staircase of stone, carried up a large shaft bored through the solid rock, and lighted by openings into the centre or area around which the steps are disposed. The entrance to this ingenious work is through an arched passage conducting from the level of the street, by a very gentle ascent, to the foot of the steps; when the latter, being divided into two branches, afford facility of access to many persons at the same time, both in mounting and descending. The landing-places, as well as the apertures for the admission of light, being properly secured by iron rails and gratings, accidents never occur; indeed, both the design and execution of this work are deserving the highest commendation. Such a union of elegance and convenience, might have reflected credit even upon the genius of

Drawn by H. Gastineau

Engraved by S. Lacey

DOVER.

Sir Christopher Wren; at once combining the gracefulness of that stupendous vestige of architectural skill, the Monument of London, with the greatest simplicity and general accommodation.

The Priory of Dover, or Saint Martin the Less, was established by Archbishop Corboil, in 1132. That primate having, in conjunction with the prior and monks of Christ church, Canterbury, obtained a grant from Henry I. of the revenues of the collegiate church of St. Martin le Grand, erected this structure in the fields near Dover, to which he gave the above name.

According to the original grant, this establishment was intended for canons regular, of the order of St. Augustine only; the prior to be chosen from the house at Canterbury. The archbishop, however, being partial to the canons of Merton, secretly intended to establish that fraternity in his new house at Dover, for which purpose he obtained a new grant from the king, wherein it was stipulated that they might elect a prior from among themselves.

Being fearful of the resentment of his monks, at Canterbury, Archbishop Corboil privately despatched the bishops of Norwich and St. David's, together with his own archdeacon, and a company of Merton canons, to Dover, for the purpose of consecrating and taking possession of his new mansion.

The monks of Canterbury, having notice of their intention, equally proceeded to Dover, vowing vengeance, and threatening to justify their right, by an immediate appeal to the pope. The bishops, the archdeacon, and canons of Merton, being intimidated, returned, in order to lay their complaints before the primate, who was then residing in London. No sooner was the archbishop aware of this fact, than he flew to Canterbury, where his expostulations and threats were of no avail, as the litigated point was of too much consequence to be resigned. Thus foiled in his views, the wounded feelings of the primate could not sustain the humiliation, so that in less than twelve days he paid the debt of nature.

The monks of Canterbury immediately forwarded twelve of their fraternity to take possession of Dover priory, previous to its consecration; but the king's brother, who was bishop of Winchester, and the pope's nuncio, chastised their insolence, compelling them to retrace their steps to Canterbury.

Corboil was succeeded by Theobald in the metropolitan see; who, having acquired prudence from the fate of his predecessor, again despatched twelve of his monks to Dover, in order to take possession of the new house, appointing Ascelin their sacrist, to officiate as prior. Theobald having been a Benedictine monk, the new settlers agreed to adopt the rules of that fraternity, in compliment to their patron; however, soon after their establishment, they felt mortified in being compelled to receive all future priors from their original brotherhood of Canterbury. This nomination of a prior proved a source of continual bickerings between the two establishments; and the revenues of Dover priory being expended in litigations, the society was ultimately reduced to extreme poverty.

Archbishop Baldwin, regretting those disgraceful contentions, sought to establish peace at the expense of justice, by appointing Osborn, a member of the community of Dover, to officiate as prior, in 1189, which measure was resented by the monks of Canterbury, who, in 1258, obtained from Pope Adrian a confirmation of the original grant. They further resolved to compel the monks of Dover to live according to the strict rules of St. Benedict, adopted by their predecessors, in compliance with the desire of Archbishop Theobald, the rules of which fraternity enjoined poverty, and obedience to the will of their superiors.

Anselm de Estria was elected prior at Canterbury, and despatched to Dover in 1275, being such a rigid disciplinarian, that he would scarcely allow them the common necessaries of life; while their brethren of Canterbury had so exhausted their funds, that the establishment had incurred a debt of 1100 marks. This ill used brotherhood had frequently petitioned the crown for relief, and, at length, by command of the king, Robert de Whitacre was made prior, in 1289; who, being one of their own members, it was conceived would labour to correct abuses. Still, however, their sufferings were great; in addition to which, the French, having landed in 1296, completely ravaged their edifice.

In 1307 King Edward II. lodged in this house; and the archbishop, then acting more independently of his monks than his predecessors, in 1320, obtained an exclusive jurisdiction over this priory, which was confirmed to him by Edward III. ten years after; the latter monarch further bestowing the profits of the Port, and the tolls of the market, to Dover priory, in 1337.

During the whole of that period the monks of Canterbury watched every opportunity of regaining their former influence, and at length, in 1356, obtained a grant of the above prince, to unite the priory of Dover with that of Christ church, in Canterbury. In this instrument it was stipulated that the revenues and expenditures of either house should remain separate; but the brethren of Canterbury, as patrons, were to supply the establishment at Dover with a prior, as well as to furnish the house with monks. The above measures, however, were not productive of peace, as the monks of Dover, after that union, claimed a voice in electing an archbishop; whereas, the fraternity of Canterbury would not consent. The brotherhood of the latter house further insisted on a right to send novices, at pleasure, to the priory of Dover; which was strenuously resisted by the monks of this town.

After incessant litigations, a great expenditure of money, and a final appeal to the pope, the monks of Dover priory were obliged to submit; and remained an appendage to the fraternity of Canterbury, until its suppression in the 25th year of Henry VIII. A. D. 1535, at which period its annual income amounted to £232 1 5½.

That prince then gave the lands, tithes, and buildings, to Richard Thornton, suffragan bishop of Dover, to hold for life, or until he should be promoted to a benefice yielding £120 a year. That promotion having been shortly after bestowed, the premises and revenues were given to the Archbishop of Canterbury, in 1537, to which see they still belong.

The ruins of St. Martin le Grand are very extensive, and surrounded by a stone wall. The exterior structure of the refectory, now converted to a barn, is more than 100 feet long, and still entire. The gateway is also in excellent preservation; part of the church yet remains, and a farm-house, recently rebuilt, stands among the ruins.

The Hospital of Maison Dieu, or House of God, was erected

by Hubert de Burgh, in the reign of John, for the accommodation of pilgrims, passing to or from the continent. A master, and several brethren and sisters, were placed herein, being enjoined to practise hospitality to all strangers.

As this establishment was merely intended to afford temporary relief, no church was, in the first instance, erected for the accommodation of the society. Subsequently, however, two sisters named Agnes and Beatrice, gave lands and tenements for the maintenance of a priest, who officiated in a chapel within the church of St. Mary the Virgin, in Dover. The inconvenience resulting from having no church adjoining the house, was obviated by Henry III. on condition that the whole should be resigned to him; when that monarch was present at the dedication to St. Mary, in 1227. On Hubert de Burgh's resigning the patronage to the king, he reserved to the brethren the right of electing their own master.

Various lands and rentals were given to this hospital by Simon de Wardune; the whole being confirmed to this establishment by the above prince; who also granted to the society the tithes of the passage, and ten pounds yearly out of the profits of the port. This hospital had also large revenues arising from numerous manors, houses, mills, and other property; and was honoured by the visits of several royal and noble personages.

Edward Prescot, of Guston, A.D. 1482, devised by will, to every member of this society, being a priest, three shillings and four pence; and to every novice, one shilling; to sing dirges and masses on the day of his decease, every month day, and twelvemonth day, as well as for all souls then at the point of death.

William Warren, of St. Peter's, Dover, in 1506, gave houses and lands to his son, John, on condition that he should pay yearly to the master and brethren of Maison Dieu, for ever, £4 for an annual obit.

At the period of its suppression, being in the 26th of Henry VIII. A.D. 1534, the clear revenue was £159 18 6, and the annual income £231 16 7.

The tower and body of the church, a small building at the east end, and the park wall, still remain. The windows are lofty, and the roofing was, to all appearance, supported without pillars. This edifice was converted into a brewing and bake house; as well as storerooms for wheat, flour, and biscuit; the premises

have also been used by the victualling department of the navy, from the time of its suppression until the restoration of peace in 1814.

On the opposite side of the road, and a little farther from Dover, was a Saxon burial-place, where several swords, spears, and beads, have at different times been discovered, while digging up chalk.

The Hospital of St. Bartholomew, intended for poor leprous persons, was erected about the year 1150, either by Osborne and Godwin, two monks of Dover, or Theobald, archbishop of Canterbury; this institution having been subject to the prior of Dover.

The building stood at Buckland, on a piece of land called Thega, situated westward of the present London road, and opposite the Wesleyan chapel. The house was dedicated to St. Bartholomew, and intended for the reception of ten brothers, and the same number of sisters; but, as the original donations were insufficient for the maintenance of that number, they were reduced to eight persons of either sex.

The duty of the warden was to keep an inventory of the effects in the house, as well as the images in the church; and to have the lamps kept burning at the entrance of the chapel, &c.

This hospital was suppressed in 1535, and the church and buildings demolished by one John Bowle; the work of destruction being so effectually accomplished, that not one stone was left upon another.

It appears by a patent of Edward VI. under the date 1542, that Henry VIII. in 1537, gave this hospital, with its lands and immunities, to the before-mentioned John Bowle, during his natural life. On his demise, it reverted back to the crown; when King Edward gave it by patent, in 1542, to Sir Henry Palmer, knight, and his heirs for ever, which instrument, according to Mr. Batcheller, is now in the possession of William Kingsford, esq. of Buckland, who purchased the estate a short time since.

This community had a grant of holding within the limits of their hospital, a fair, continued to the present time, and kept on St. Bartholomew's day. Most of the ground upon which the hospital stood, was sold for the erection of houses thereon, and is now nearly covered with dwellings.

Some of the early Kentish historians, namely Lambarde, Kilburn, and Harris, positively declare that the KNIGHTS TEMPLARS had an establishment at Dover, while the generality of writers on this county state that King John resigned his crown to Pandulph, the pope's legate, in a house of the Templars, at Dover; that infamous deed being dated, "*Apud domum militum Templi juxta Doveram.*" Lambarde affirms that the house of the Templars was not far from the Roman pharos, or Bredenstone, the site of which is now occupied by a grand redoubt, situated on the heights just above the town; while Kilburn and Harris have conjectured that the edifice in question was either in or near Archcliff fort. Some more recent authorities have doubted, and others denied, the existence of such a building at Dover; Hasted being one of this number; and in order to reconcile their assertions with the disgraceful humiliation of King John, have supposed it might have taken place in St. Mary's church, or the Maison Dieu, &c. The Templars, however, had nothing to do with St. Mary's, or the Maison Dieu, while their institutions at Ewell and Swingfield were too far removed from Dover, to accord with the above Latin designation affixed to the instrument signed by King John.

A discovery, however, made on Dover heights in 1806, seems to reconcile these doubts and contradictions. The engineer, while directing the labourers employed in constructing a new road, laid open the foundations of a very ancient stone building, covered for ages under an accumulation of soil; those remains consisted of circular ruins, the extreme diameter measuring thirty-two feet; having a square vestibule eastward, twenty-four feet by twenty in extent. The walls of the circular portion, from four to five feet high when cleared, were thirty inches thick, and ornamented by pilasters and niches, the whole interior being coated with a white cement. These remains are situated opposite Archcliff fort, above the military hospital, upon the highest ridge of the hill, on its decline eastward, and, as Lambarde affirms, not far from the Roman pharos. Although the ruins are not very striking, as regards their magnitude, the whole nevertheless appears the remains of an elegant edifice, which we conceive, with Mr. Batcheller, may have been the identical spot where the degraded and unfortunate monarch, John, ratified one of the most humiliating acts to be found in the records of English history.

It is a curious fact that the church of the Templars, in London, called the Temple church, is round, similar to the above ruin on Dover heights. There are three other churches of the same description in England, all supposed to have belonged to the Templars, whose duty consisted in defending the holy sepulchre at Jerusalem, which is a circular structure, in imitation of which, it is not improbable, these English edifices may have been built.

THE PARISH of the TOWN and PORT of DOVER is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury, and *deanery* of its own name.

This town formerly contained six parochial churches, and six distinct parishes; four of which, namely St. Nicholas, St. John's, St. Peter's, and St. Martin's le Grand, have been long since in ruins, and the parishes united to those of St. Mary and St. James, now constituting the only two remaining churches in Dover. Leland, adverting to these six churches, says "three of them were under one roof at St. Martin's, in the heart of the town;" whereby he must have intended to designate St. John, St. Nicholas, and St. Peter's; but, although those churches may have been subordinate to the collegiate church of St. Martin, as the mother fabric, and of the patronage of the college therein, nevertheless, the ruins in various parts of the place still remaining, plainly demonstrate that they were separate structures, as will appear from the ensuing accounts. From domesday record we find that three churches in Dover paid an annual rental to the canons of St. Martin's church, the entry under the title of their possessions being thus noticed: *three churches at Dover pay thirty-six shillings and eight pence;* that is to say, to the church of St. Martin.

The CHURCH of ST. MARTIN LE GRAND, with the exception of the ancient church in the Roman fortress, described in our account of Dover castle, was unquestionably the most venerable ecclesiastical fabric that existed in this town. It occupied a considerable portion of the present market-place, west of which,

some of its massy ruins still command the contiguous dwellings.

We have previously stated, that the haven, in former times, occupied the site of this ancient fabric; having been erected by Withred, king of Kent, in 696, for the reception of twenty-four secular canons. Under that royal patronage, they were exempted from all jurisdiction, except to the sovereign himself and the Roman pontif, having had large endowments and grants of land, several of the fraternity being prebends, and chaplains to the king, who had a royal chapel within this church.

Under Harold, A.D. 1036, they were dispossessed of several of their vast possessions; while, at the time of the Conquest, in 1066, it appears celibacy was not enjoined to priests, as several of their sons are mentioned, in the annals of this church, who had succeeded their fathers in the offices of religion.

No complaint respecting their morals appears, until the year 1124, when Corboil, archbishop of Canterbury, applied to Henry I. on the subject of the dissolute lives of his canons at Dover; informing the king, that in the light of their patron, he should have to answer for all their iniquities. Henry, therefore, after being importuned for six years, resigned his canons of St. Martin le Grand, into the hands of the archbishop and his monks, who were enjoined to nominate a superior for the government of the house at Dover.

How far the morals of this community were purged, under the auspices of their new patron, we are not told; it however appears, that he was far from remiss in appropriating to his own use the major part of their large revenues.

With those sums, in 1132, he laid the foundation of Dover priory, before mentioned, then called the New Work, or Saint Martin the Less; after which, the contentions took place between the primate and his monks, to which we have previously adverted.

Suffragan bishops were afterwards appointed to the church of St. Martin, and divine service performed therein, until the 36th of Henry VIII. A.D. 1546; and about three years after it was desecrated, and taken down, with the exception of the steeple and part of the walls.

This was the mother church of Dover, none of the priests being allowed to sing mass in the other churches, until the offi-

ciating ecclesiastic of St. Martin's had commenced the service, which was announced by tolling the great bell.

The remains of massy columns still bear testimony of the former splendor of St. Martin's le Grand. The burial-place, now called the Old Churchyard, is still used for that purpose by the inhabitants of St. Mary's parish. How this cemetery became private property, is not known; it was, however, sold in 1593, by John Toke, to John Lovedale; and the present proprietor of the same claims a right of herbage, and demands a fee of five guineas for permission to erect an altar tomb, on the premises, and ten shillings and sixpence for a head stone. The General Baptists have a piece of ground railed off for the burial of their dead, while another portion is used for a carpenter's yard.

A traditionary account states, that a merchant of Dover, named John Hewson, accorded to the inhabitants of St. Mary's parish the privilege of burial in this ground.

The ecclesiastical fair of St. Martin, is still held in the market-place, on the 23d of November, which continues during three market-days. It was originally granted to the priory, and thence transferred to the town.

The Church of Saint John, situated at the entrance of the town from Canterbury, at the upper end of Biggin street, was taken down about the year 1537; when the materials and ornaments were divided among the persons deputed to superintend the demolition. The premises were then given or sold to John Bowle, who formed a stable in some part of the church, and a pig-sty in the churchyard. No vestige now remains to point out its situation; but, in the year 1827, a quantity of human bones were disinterred, on rebuilding the second right-hand house, on entering the town; which spot is probably the site of the burial-place formerly annexed to this structure.

Saint Peter's Church stood north-west of the present market-place, and a row of houses now marks the site of the same. It was a rectory in the patronage of the crown, valued in the king's books at £3 16 10, having had a cemetery adjoining. It formerly paid tenths to the crown; but when certified as not

exceeding the yearly value of £24, it was discharged from the payment of first-fruits and tenths.

In the chancel of this church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, was buried Thomas Toke, of Dover and Westbere, A.D. 1474; and in another part of this edifice, Richard Palmer, about the same period, mention being also made of the image of St. Nicholas. William Warren, in 1506, was interred in the chapel of our Lady; and Richard Fineux, in front of the image of St. Mary Magdalen, in 1520, who gave a legacy to St. Roque's light in this church. Peter Mace was inhumed before the chapel of St. Michael the Archangel, in 1540; William Paynter, before that of our Lady; and Robert Vyncente, in the chapel of St. John the Baptist, both in the above year; Hugh Braket, late mayor, before the high altar, in 1549; John Williams and Thomas Fynett, jurats, in 1558; and Jane, widow of John Warren, in our Lady's chapel, A.D. 1572.

Henry Fravel, interred at the priory, in 1514, gave to the reparation of the north roof, over St. Stephen, and for mending the windows against St. Tronyon, five marks; and to St. Tronyon's light, to burn before his image, one cow; and another for tapers, to illuminate that of St. Trofymus.

St. Peter's church seems to have been in use in 1611, at which period John Gray was rector. The parish was then united to that of St. Mary, the church-wardens of the latter still paying a yearly feefarm rent of 10s. 10d. for a tenement, called St. Peter's church, or chantry.

The mayor and members of Parliament were formerly chosen in this church; but, in 1583, these elections were removed to St. Mary's; and, in 1826, an Act of Parliament was obtained for removing such nominations to the court hall.

The CHURCH of ST. NICHOLAS stood in the centre of Bench street, on the north-east side, several persons having been buried within its walls, and the adjoining cemetery; among whom may be enumerated Robert Colwell, in 1488; Robert Randolph, before the altar of St. John of Brydlyngton, in 1489; Thomas Haxtal, in the chancel, in 1486; Edward, his son, in our Lady's chapel, in 1518; and John Brown, jurat, before the Great Rood, or cross, in the body of the church, in 1522.

In 1518, John Joiner was minister of this church, which appears to have been in use until 1526.

Part of this edifice, when dilapidated, was converted into a stable. The porch was taken down in 1796; at which time, Mr. Ashdown, the Baptist minister, possessed part of the churchyard for his garden, and the tower for his parlour, having also other apartments adjoining.

The tower of the church, still standing, was formerly called Marshes, or Prison tower, having been used for the purpose of confining French prisoners. Mr. Hasted says, that the body of the church stood on the east side of the tower; and that the crypt, when he wrote his history, was used as cellars for the adjoining houses. Had such been the fact, this church must have had three bodies, as the cellars in question are on the north and south sides of the tower.

From the quantities of human bones dug up, the church und cemetery appear to have occupied the entire space between the whole range of Bench street, and the adjoining lane, at a few rods eastward; the entire site is now covered with houses, yards, or gardens.

The Church of Saint Mary the Virgin, situated in Canon street, near the market-place, is still in use; and probably constituted one of the three religious houses, founded by the canons of St. Martin's, during the latter period of the Saxon heptarchy, as the tower, bases, columns, capitals, and arches, all indicate the architectural taste of that people.

The tower stands at the west end, surmounted by a spire covered with lead. In 1634, leave was obtained to take down a large leaden cross at the summit, and replace the same by a lighter one of wood and iron; as well as to construct a gallery at the lower end of the middle aisle. In 1497, there were only two bells in this tower; but they were afterwards, at different periods, increased to six; which, in 1724, were recast, so as to form the present peal of eight.

Two rows of massive pillars, with demi-columns at each side, support the roof. The bases, capitals, and columns, as well as the width of the arches, present great varieties, as some of the arches are circular, some elliptical, and others pointed. The distance between the pillars varies from seven to thirteen feet.

The nave consists of three aisles, and the same number of transepts, with a recess towards the east, wherein are placed the communion table and the magistrates' seats. The recess has the appearance of a small chancel ; but the parishioners claim and repair it, as part of the nave. All the remaining space is filled with pews; and commodious galleries extending on either side ; the length being about 120 feet, and the breadth fifty-five. The north gallery was raised by subscription, in 1611 ; that on the west, by the pilots, in 1699 ; that on the south, by Henry Furness, esq. member of Parliament for Dover, in 1721 ; and that on the east, by the parish, in 1739.

The advowson of this church was in the gift of the crown, at the period of King John, who gave it to Hubert de Burgh ; and, in 1384, we find it appropriated by the abbot of Pontiniac, when the valuation was £5 6 8. It subsequently belonged to the master and brethren of the Maison Dieu, who provided a priest to officiate therein ; church-wardens being also appointed to keep it in repair. When the hospital of Maison Dieu was suppressed, in 1534, it reverted to the crown, at which period John Thompson, then master of that institution, estimated the value of the parsonage, at £6 per annum.

Henry VIII. being at Dover in 1547, the inhabitants entreated he would resign to them this church for a place of worship ; and as there were no tythes, or any provision for a minister, he consented. On his departure, therefore, the parishioners affixed a seal on the doors, in token of possession. It afterwards became a perpetual curacy, the advowson being vested in the inhabitants.

From the produce of the images and altars, the sale of the vestments of the priests, with the chalices and other sacred utensils, the parishioners raised £63 9 5; and with that fund, which was considerable in those days, were enabled, in 1550, to remove the chapels, shrines, and stalls in the choir, and beautify the interior of the edifice.

On the accession of Mary, in 1553, the inhabitants, being required to conform to the Popish religion, were obliged to expend nearly £3 in providing a mass book, candlesticks, tapers, a pix, a cross, a holy loaf, and hallowed fire ; the suffragan bishop, Thornton, having been the first who performed mass here.

Under Elizabeth, Protestantism being again introduced, in 1585, the elections for the mayor and members of Parliament, were transferred from St. Peter's church to this of St. Mary.

Among the numerous monumental records, is an inscription painted on a black board, placed at a great height near the east end of the middle aisle of this church, in memory of the British Aristophanes, Samuel Foote, who died at the Ship Tavern in this town, on his way to France (whither he was going for the recovery of his health,) and was here buried. This memento was a tribute of friendship and respect, and concisely describes Mr. Foote as having possessed a heart ever warm in the cause of humanity, and a hand uniformly open to relieve the distressed. In this church are also deposited the remains of the poet and lashing satirist, Churchill.

However painful the task, we cannot here omit to remark, the continuation of a most glaring impropriety, which every friend of decency and decorum must desire to see removed from a place of divine worship. Every one reading the history of Dover will feel astonished to find, after the *plain hint* which the Corporation received from Royalty itself, that a range of highly ornamented and distinguished seats occupy the whole east end of the recess behind the communion table, close to which (if not upon it) the mace borne before the chief magistrate is placed, during his attendance at divine worship. With every dislike to superstition and bigotry, on the one hand, and entertaining a proper respect for the dignity of the magisterial office on the other, we cannot help remarking, that such an appropriation of seats is as unbecoming as the abominable custom of holding elections in churches, whereby the house of prayer, if not converted into a *den of thieves*, is absolutely turned into a *bear-garden*.

When King Charles II. visited Dover, on repairing to church, he was conducted with great pomp to *this* place of hearing, when his majesty, in a manner indicating that true humility dignifies instead of debasing the highest station, declined the use of a seat placed, as he emphatically observed,

"above
The Majesty of Heaven!"

Notwithstanding this remark, the seats remain *in statu quo*, with all their velvet cushions, fringe, lace, and finery; and the mayor and jurats are still thought worthy of occupying the same!

In 1706, the body of the church was furnished with a new ceiling, prior to which, the rafters and timbers were visible; the whole roof, however, being covered with lead, the appearance was less unpleasant, and any inconvenience from the weather prevented. One of the chandeliers was purchased, by subscription, in 1738; and the other, by the pilots, in 1742: in which year the organ was built.

In 1804, the magistrates caused locks to be put on their seats, as well as those of the common councilmen, to which the parishioners objected, and a lawsuit ensued; when, after expending £1000, the cause was dropped, and the seats now continue unlocked, as before.

The lead was taken from the north roof in 1827, and replaced with slates and tiles. The galleries were also new fronted, and the edifice beautified, which now presents a very handsome appearance; it is, however, much too small for the number of parishioners.

The parish is very populous; and, according to the last census, in 1821, contained 1645 houses, and 8653 inhabitants.

The charities and donations to this church have been very numerous; but some are lost, and it is very much doubted whether others were appropriated to the purposes intended. From those still remaining, and the alms collected at the sacrament, large quantities of bread are distributed to the poor every Sunday.

Previous to the suppression of religious houses, the church of St. Mary had a rector, curate, deacon, and subdeacon: but how they were paid does not appear. Soon after the inhabitants had obtained possession of the church, by permission of Henry VIII. as before mentioned, their poverty or indifference was such, that in some instances, they pawned and sold the rich vestments left by the Catholic priests, in order to pay their minister; and there were also periods when this church had no officiating clergyman.

At the demise or resignation of a minister of this church, the pulpit is now opened to as many candidates, in holy orders, as

think fit to offer themselves: they are invited by general advertisement, and each officiates during one Sunday. Having undergone a regular course of probation, the parishioners, who pay church cess, proceed to an election; and the candidate who obtains a majority, is licensed by the archbishop, and succeeds to this living.

The Church of St. James's is an ancient structure; but whether of Saxon or Norman origin, cannot be determined. It is a rectory, in the gift of the archbishop of Canterbury, and stood in the king's books at £4 17 6, but being valued at only £24 a year, was discharged from the tenths and first-fruits. Archbishop Tenison augmented this rectory by a gift of £200; and the governors of Queen Anne's bounty added the same amount.

Archbishop Secker left £2000 for the purpose of repairing or rebuilding the parsonage houses, in poor livings; of which sum the Reverend Thomas Tournay obtained £200, whereto he added £50, liberal subscriptions being also raised by the inhabitants. With those sums, the present parsonage house was erected, in 1786, on the site of the old mansion, which, from the appearance of the masonry, had survived three or four centuries.

At the eastern extremity of the south aisle, the lord warden usually held his courts of chancery and admiralty; and the court of loadmanage was also convened here. The courts are still opened in the church, when the business is very properly adjourned to the Antwerp Inn.

Among the persons buried here, was John Claryngbould, interred in the choir, A.D. 1485, before the image of St. James, and near that of St. Nicholas.

In 1523, Elizabeth, widow of John à Wodde, was inhumed in the choir, having devised half a sheet to the high altar, and a kercher to cover the chalice; also, her best coverlet, to be laid before the high altar, for poor child-wives; and a tablecloth of drap, to make two towels; one for St. James, and the other for the cross.

John Broke was buried in our Lady's chapel, in 1529, who ordered certain lands to be sold, and £40 in money to be given for a complete suit of vestments, to obtain the prayers of the priests for ever.

In 1623, William Warde, jurat, was buried in the east corner of Saylor's chancel.

Simon York was buried here, in 1682; and Philip York, his son, then town clerk, and father of the chancellor in 1721.

Henry Matson, merchant, who gave Solton farm to Dover harbour, was, in 1722, buried in the chancel.

This church consists of a nave and chancel; the former being divided by two aisles and a transept: the square embattled tower, wherein are six bells, stands on massive pillars over the centre of the north aisle; having the pulpit, desk, and several pews beneath. These pillars and arches give a heavy appearance to the interior; however, in 1825, other exceptionable parts of the fabric being removed, the general aspect is no longer offensive to the view. At the above period, the gallery, formerly confined to the western extremity of the north aisle, was extended across the other; the church was also new roofed, slated, furnished with a new ceiling, and otherwise beautified.

According to the census of the population, in 1821, this parish contained 289 houses, and 1821 inhabitants: but the number of dwellings, and the population, are much increased since that period; numerous lodging houses having also been built in that part of the town.

The charities bestowed upon the church of St. James's, are very few, when compared with those of St. Mary's parish.

The Chapel of our Lady of Pity was situated on the sea-shore, eastward of Archcliff fort, and founded by a northern nobleman, on the spot, according to tradition, where he had been shipwrecked. It was dedicated to St. Mary, but the period of its erection is unknown.

On the suppression of religious establishments, in 1536, the vessels and embroidered vestments were valued at 200 marks, and seized for the king's use. Sculptured, on a stone over the door, were the arms of England empaling those of France; and, upon another slab, near the stairs, the date MDXXX. accompanied by a rose and crown.

When this edifice was divested of its furniture, it became the dwelling of a poor fisherman; but, in 1576, it was totally washed away, during a tempestuous gale; the site, however, still retaining the name of *The Chapel*, or *Chapel Plain*.

Independent of the two parochial churches in Dover, already described, we have now to enumerate the following places of worship, resorted to by the different sectarians of this town.

The foundation stone of the present General Baptists' Chapel, a very elegant edifice, designed by Mr. Read, was laid, on the 15th of February, 1819, by Mr. Sampson Kingsford, elder of the Baptists' church at Canterbury. It is situated above Fivepost lane, leading from Snargate street, and was opened for public worship on the 2d of May, 1820. Several vaults, with entrances from the adjoining cemetery, were constructed in the basement; and some remains of the departed were removed from the old cemetery, and interred in this new burial ground.

A Sunday School, being the first established in Dover, was instituted, in 1803, by a female member of the General Baptists' congregation, of the name of Tavernor, the lineal heiress of Captain Samuel Tavernor, governor of Dover castle, in 1663. This gentleman, having attended behind a hedge to hear Mr. Prescot, who was preaching in a field, became a convert to the Baptists' faith; and was baptized by immersion, in the above year. This school has been under the entire direction of this female founder for a series of years; but she has, of late, been assisted by the juvenile members of the society.

The Quakers' Meeting House was erected in Queen street, about thirty years back. The building is commodious, having an adjoining burial ground, and a high wall surrounding the premises.

The Friends, in 1660, purchased their burial ground, adjoining Woolcomber street, which had previously been a garden. The purchase money was £15 8 6, the enclosing wall having cost £5. Some of the members of this community still bury their dead in this ground.

Zion Chapel, belonging to the Presbyterians, stands in Last lane, and was erected in 1703. The ground, on part of which stood a malt-house, was purchased by Philip Papillon,

esq. M.P. for the use of this congregation; and, in 1758, his son, David, added greatly to his father's bounty, by remitting both principal and the interest of the debt, then due to him by the Presbyterian community.

It having been discovered, in 1814, that Zion chapel was built on a bad foundation, the members resolved to rebuild the edifice in a substantial manner; and erect two additional galleries for the accommodation of the increased congregation. This chapel is now sufficiently large to contain 500 persons; having a vestry and house for the minister attached to the same, with an adjoining burial ground.

A Sunday school, gratuitously conducted by members of the Presbyterian persuasion, was established fifteen years since; the present number of children amounting to 150.

The Westleyan Methodist Chapel stands in Queen Elizabeth square, the premises having been conveyed on the 5th of April, 1790, to the Rev. John Wesley, and Messrs. Henry Moore, Joseph Bradford, John Broadbent, and John Pritchard, acting as ministers in connexion with him, who were made joint trustees. This is a commodious building, capable of accommodating about 500 persons; and the Sunday school, established in 1813, is now attended by 260 children.

This sect erected a new chapel at Buckland, about a mile from Dover, in 1808, which is a neat small building, having seats for 200 persons. The Sunday school at the above place affords instruction to 130 children.

The Particular Baptists' Chapel, on *Pent Side*, erected in 1823, is a very commodious edifice, being sufficiently spacious to accommodate 500 persons; having also a Sunday school in the basement; which latter establishment receives about eighty children.

Saint John's Chapel, which belonged to the Independents, was erected in Middle row, at the Pier, in 1823; but, the service having ceased in 1827, the chapel is now closed.

From the last census of the population of the Town and Port of Dover, taken by order of Parliament, in 1821, the returns were, males 4775, females 5552, making a total of 10,327 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF BEWSBOROUGH.

This district adjoins the hundred of Kinghamford, and contains within its boundaries the parishes of

Shebbertswell, Coldred, Whitfield, West Langdon, Guston, Oxney, St. Margaret's, West Cliffe, Ewell, River, Polton, part of Hougham, Buckland, and and a portion of Charlton; together with the churches of those parishes, and part of the parishes of Wooton Liddon, and Waldershare; the churches of which stand in other hundreds.

A court-leet is held for the hundred of Bewsborough, at which *two constables* are chosen, for the upper and lower half hundreds. The court is held at Bewsborough cross, near the cross hand between Archer's court and Old Park, being opened under a tree, at the accustomed place, and thence adjourned.

Shebbertswell is the next parish north from Wootton, being generally so written, though the proper designation is *Sibertswold,* a name derived from its ancient Saxon proprietor, but, in the record of Domesday, it is written *Siberteswalt.* This parish contains two boroughs; namely, Shebbertswell and Nethergong, commonly denominated Nareton.

Although healthy, this parish is not accounted pleasant, either in situation or the quality of the soil. It is close to the north side of the high road to Dover, two miles north-east from Barham downs, and contains 1700 acres. The church, and a small adjoining hamlet, occupy the eastern boundary contiguous to Coldred, the ground lying as high there as in any other part of this district. West of the church is Butter street, and the Place House, and, as far to the south, the hamlet of Coxhill; which portion is low and unpleasant, for the most part enclosed, with a considerable extent of woodland. From West court, standing a small distance from Place House, the ground again becomes elevated to an open unenclosed down country, and at its extremity is *Three Barrow Down,* so called from having

that number of large Roman *tumuli*, or barrows. On this tract, the lines of intrenchment thrown up by the Romans, are particularly large, and the ditches very deep, occupying all the eminence between Denhill terrace, on the edge of Barham downs, and the site of the former mansion of Nethersole, under Snowdowne.

On the northern side of this parish, is Long Lane farm, formerly belonging to the Furnese's, of Waldershare, and afterwards to Lord Viscount Bolingbrooke, who sold the estate to the late Mr. Fector, of Dover; eastward of which appear more Roman intrenchments, and on either side heaps of *tumuli*. The soil is a cold clay, on a bed of chalk, very stiff and unpleasant for tillage; while in different parts the clay is intermingled with flints. The land is more or less fertile, according to the thickness of the layer; however, generally speaking, it is unproductive. The surface, like that of the surrounding villages, is, in succession, composed of hill and dale.

The Manor of Shebbertswell, otherwise Upton Wood, was given by King Edmund, A.D. 944, to St. Augustine's monastery; which gift was augmented by Ethelred, in 990, the whole having continued in possession of the abbot when the survey of Domesday took place, where it is entered under the title of lands appertaining to the church of St. Augustine. Abbot Scotland, soon after the above period, granted this estate to Hugo, son of Fulbert, to hold the same by knight's service, with the tithes thence arising.

The estate next fell into the possession of Richard, natural son of King John; but, at the close of that reign, Sir Walter de Wingham held it of their heirs, as mesne tenant, and died without male issue, at the commencement of the reign of Edward I. The inheritance then fell to the daughters of Sir Walter, named Matilda, and Joane, and to John, son and heir of another of his daughters and coheirs. In the 7th of that reign, Stephen de Pencestre possessed this manor, as of the inheritance of the daughters of Sir Walter, by knight's service, of the abbot, being of his barony; but that family had become extinct prior to the 20th of Edward III. It then devolved to Peter de Guildborough, or Goldsborough, as of the castle of Dover; this latter name, however, did not long remain in these parts, for,

under Richard II. we find the property was held by the family of De Uppetone, whence it derived the name of *Upton court*.

The last-mentioned possessors were succeeded by the Philipotts, descendants of those of Gillingham, in this county, one of whom, in the 3d of Richard II. was lord mayor of London; and the ensuing year, knighted by that prince, in Smithfield, for assisting Sir William Walworth in slaying the rebel, Walter Tyler. This family continued residents of Upton court, for several generations, many of them lying buried in this church, but all the inscriptions are now obliterated. Prior to the reign of Henry VII. this property was sold to the Guldefords; in whose line it did not long continue, being alienated to William Boys, esq. of Fredville, and afterwards of Bonnington, who died possessing the same, A.D. 1508. By the latter it was devised to his grandson, William, subsequently of Fredville; in which family it remained to Sir John Boys, of Gregories, who, at the close of Elizabeth's reign, alienated this manor, then called *Sibwold*, otherwise *Upton*, to Mr. John Merriweather; from whose descendants it passed to Edward Turner, of Bernard's Inn, London. Jane, daughter of the above, conveyed it in marriage to John Sparrow, of Saffron Walden, in Essex; who, in 1702, sold the estate to Awnsham Churchill; whose nephew, of Henbury, in Dorsetshire, held it in 1773. By William and Henry Churchill, sons of the last mentioned, this manor and all their possessions here, excepting Butter Street farm, were sold, in 1785, to Mr. William Baldock, of Canterbury, and William Slodden, also of that city, his trustee; who, the year following, alienated this manor to James Gunman, esq. of Dover.

A court leet and baron is held for this manor, but no officer is chosen here.

The Manor house, and some demesne lands, belong to the Earl of Guildford; it is but small, and fitted up in the cottage style.

According to the last census of the population, taken by order of Parliament, in 1821, the number of inhabitants in the parish of Shebbertswell was, males 136, females 163, making a total of 299 souls.

Butter Street Farm, with the mansion called *Place House*, and lands appertaining thereto, constituting the princi-

pal farm in this parish, was formerly part of the manor of Upton court, being held of the abbot of St. Augustine, and passed, together with the manor, to the Boys's; from whom, in the time of Elizabeth, it was alienated to Mr. John Merriweather, who resided here, and one of whose descendants built the mansion. Anne, only sister of Mr. Richard Merriweather, carried this estate in marriage to Mr. John Lowndes, of Overton, in Cheshire; whose daughter, Sarah, espousing Awnsham Churchill, esq. of Henbury, it became vested in that family. William and Henry, sons of the last-mentioned Awnsham Churchill, in 1785, alienated the major part of the mansion, gardens, &c. to Mr. Thomas Baldock; and the residue of the dwelling to Mr. Thomas Claringbold; by whom it was sold to Mr. Robert Potter; after which, he purchased the residue of the mansion of Mr. Baldock, together with *Butter Street farm.*

The Manor of Westcourt is so called from being situated west of this parish, and belonged to the priory of St. Martin, in Dover, previous to the Conquest. It was, in all probability, a gift of King Wigthred, on his removing the priory, in 696, from the castle down into Dover. In the survey of domesday, it stands under the general title of *Terra Canonicorum S. Martini de Dover,* or lands of the canons of *St. Martin,* in Dover.

This constituted the manor of Westcourt, which, during the several changes that took place in St. Martin's priory, still remained part of its possessions, till the dissolution, under Henry VIII. at which time it was suppressed, being under the value of £200, when it fell into that monarch's hands.

Having so continued for two years, Henry granted this manor, with the site of the priory, and all lands appertaining thereto, except the patronage of certain churches, in exchange, to the archbishop; in which situation it still remains, his grace being entitled to the inheritance. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Under James I. the Parker's resided on this estate, as tenants of Sir John Boys, who held the manor of the archbishop. It afterwards went to the Hammond's, of St. Alban's, until William Hammond, esq. sold his interest therein to John Plumptree, esq. of Fredville.

This parish is within the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Sandwich.

The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is small, consisting of a nave and chancel, having no tower. There are several memorials of the Matson's within this edifice.

This church was formerly appendant to the manor of Shebbertswell, and so remained till Henry de Wyngham, dean of St. Martin's, London, in 1257, bestowed it on the convent of St. Radigund, for the maintenance of one canon. In this state it remained until the dissolution, when it was granted by Henry VIII. in exchange to the primate, who soon after reconveyed it to the crown. In that deed, however, among other exceptions, it was stipulated that churches and advowsons of vicarages were not included, wherefore the appropriation of this church, with the advowson of the vicarage, remained part of the possessions of the see of Canterbury, and so continue to the present time, his grace being now entitled to the inheritance thereof.

This vicarage is valued in the king's books at £6, and the yearly tenths at 12s. There are five acres of glebe land attached to the same.

It was united by ArchbishopWhitgift, in 1584, to the adjoining vicarage of Coldred; and Archbishop Sancroft, in 1680, again consolidated these vicarages, which so continue to this day, the collation being made by the archbishop to the vicarage of Shebbertswell and Coldred combined.

The vicarage of Shebbertswell was augmented by the yearly sum of £20, payable by the lessee of the great tithes, by the primate Juxon in the 12th of Charles II. and again confirmed *anno* 28th of the same prince. In 1640, there were eighty communicants, and its value was £15. It is now of the clear yearly value of £43 19 8.

Walter de Wyngham, lord of the manor of Sibertesweald, in the 47th of Henry III. gave to this church a messuage, wherein the vicars were accustomed to reside.

Coldred parish is the next eastward from Shebbertswell, and is written in Domesday record *Colret*, having probably derived its name from the bleakness of its situation, though by some conjectured to have been so called after *Ceoldred*, king of Mercia, who is said to have visited this part of Kent in 715, as will be noticed hereafter. In this parish there are two boroughs, namely, Coldred and Popeshall. This parish stands on elevated

ground, in an open unenclosed country, being very cold, but remarkably salubrious: it is not much frequented, and, consequently, but little known. The church stands at the western extremity near to Shebbertswell; the hamlet called Coldred Street adjoining that structure, being also close to Waldershare park, which encloses a small part of this parish within its palings. At no great distance is Popeshall house and Newsole farm, commonly called Mewsole, anciently belonging to St. Augustine's monastery, and accounted a manor.

At the boundary of this parish, contiguous to Ewell, is the hamlet and farm of Singledge, the latter belonging to the trustees of Dover harbour. This parish contains 1500 acres, the soil being much the same as that of Shebbertswell, last described: it has also some woodland in the part nearest to Whitfield and Ewell. The inhabitants of Coldred, when perambulating their bounds, not only included a portion of Waldershare park, but claimed the right of dividing and passing through the mansion-house. Some years back, however, they were refused that privilege, the parish of Waldershare having disputed the right, and, in consequence, the boundaries continue undecided. No fair is held in this parish.

Near the church of St. Coldred is a very perfect intrenchment, with a high mound to the north-east. The tradition handed down is, that it was formed by Ceoldred, king of Mercia, who, in 715, repaired hither to assist the men of Kent against Ina, king of the West Saxons, who had imposed a very burdensome tribute in 694. It appears, from the Saxon Chronicle, that Ina and Ceoldred fought a battle at Wodnesbeach A. D. 715, which was, undoubtedly, Woodnesborough, near Sandwich, being not far hence where the high mound still exists. The church occupies very elevated ground on part of the site of the ancient fortification above mentioned. The fosse, on the north-west, forms a boundary to the churchyard, being of considerable depth, the highway separating the above part from the remainder on the south-east. Some years back, in the centre of that road a well was discovered, by the sinking of the earth, which proved to be 300 feet deep, yielding excellent water. The area within the whole intrenchment comprises upwards of two acres, having, most probably, been of Roman origin. On enlarging Waldershare park, about fifty years back, while digging in order to form

a plantation, many urns, *paterœ*, and other Roman utensils, of various coloured earths, were found, with burnt bones, &c. As this land had uniformly been tilled, no inequalities were observable on the surface to point out this Roman cemetery.

When Domesday record was compiled, the MANOR OF COLDRED was part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Bayeaux, under the general title of whose lands it was there entered. Four years after the taking of that survey, the bishop being disgraced, this manor fell to the crown, when it was granted by William the Conqueror to the family of Saye, in which line it remained until the reign of Henry III. when Jeffry de Saye, with the consent of his son, William, granted this property, with the sepulture of his body, to the hospital of St. Mary, in Dover, afterwards called *Maison Dieu*, then recently founded, which gift was confirmed in the fifteenth year of the above monarch's reign, after which Edward I. in his fourteenth year, granted a charter of *free warren*, a privilege of great consequence in those days, to the brethren of that hospital for their manor of Coldred. In this state it continued until the suppression, when it was given by Henry VIII. with other premises, to Thomas Colepeper, to hold *in capite* by knight's service: shortly after, however, it became again vested in the crown, when the same prince, in his thirty-fourth year, granted it to Sir John Gage, for his services in Scotland. This last possessor, the ensuing year, exchanged a large portion of this estate with the archbishop, since which it has remained vested in the see of Canterbury. There is no court held for the manor of Coldred.

The remaining part of this property which continued in the hands of Sir John Gage equally retained the name of the *Manor of Coldred*, and continued vested in him until the thirty-eighth of Henry VIII. when he conveyed it back to the crown, where it continued until Edward VI. in his seventh year, granted this *Manor of Coldred*, &c. late belonging to *Maison Dieu* in Dover to Edward Lord Clinton and Saye. That nobleman soon alienated the property to Richard Monings, esq. of Saltwood castle, who died possessed of it in the third of Elizabeth. In that line it continued until 1663, after which it was sold, with other manors, to Sir Henry Furnese, bart. afterwards of Waldershare. It was then carried in marriage by his granddaughter Catherine, first to

Lewis, earl of Rockingham, and secondly to Francis, earl of Guildford, by whom having no issue, and dying in 1766, she bequeathed this manor to her surviving husband, since which it has remained vested in the Guildford family. A court-leet and court-baron is held for this manor.

The Manor of Popeshall, or *Popshall*, as it is commonly called, and sometimes very erroneously *Copsall*, occupies the eastern boundary of this parish, and adjoins Waldershare park. In Domesday survey it is entered as *Popeselle*, at which period it formed part of the estate of Odo, and was entered as such. On that prelate's disgrace, the Conqueror granted these lands to Hugh de Port, which constituted the barony of Port, being held *in capite*, and the possessor bound to maintain a certain number of troops for the defence of Dover castle. It was subsequently held by knight's service of his descendants, (who assumed the name of St. John, making the seat of Basing, in Hampshire, the chief of their barony,) by the family of Orlanstone, of Orlanstone, in this county. William de Orlanstone held it under Henry III. leaving it to his son, William, who, in the 51st of that monarch's reign, obtained a charter of *free warren* for his manors of Orlanstone and Popeshalle. At length John de Orlanstone, at the close of Edward III.'s reign, alienated this manor to the Horne's, a branch of the family so named, seated at Horne's place, in Apledore. In that family it continued until the 20th of Henry VI. when, James Horne dying, it went to John Digge, of Barham, whose progenitor of the same name had espoused Juliana, sister, and ultimately heir, of James Horne, above mentioned, and in his progeny it remained down to Sir Dudley Diggs, of Chilham castle. This last-mentioned possessor, at the close of the reign of James I. passed this estate to Sir William Monins, bart. of Waldershare, who possessed the remaining part of Popeshall, most probably the same described in Domesday record as having been held by Ralph de Curbespine, which had been in the possession of his ancestors of the name of Monins as far back as the beginning of the reign of Edward III. In 1663, his son, Sir Edward Monins, bart. died possessed of the whole of this property, after which his heirs joined in the sale, with other manors, to Sir Henry Furnese, bart. who died in 1712, possessed

of the property. Since that period it has descended equally with Coldred in the line of the Guildford's. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Henry Malmains, of Waldershare, by his will, under date 1271, mentions Popeshall church among others to which he had bequeathed legacies. In a manuscript of Christ church, Canterbury, mention is made that the pension of the vicar of Coldred was assigned to the maintenance of one chaplain at Popeshall; and, in the valuation of churches, made A.D. 1384, being the 8th of Richard II. the churches of Coldrede and Popeshall, belonging to Dover priory, are both mentioned. The foundations of the chapel or church are still visible in the vicinity of the manor-house.

There was a portion of tithes arising from seventy-six acres of the manor of Popeshall, which belonged to the Abbot's, of Langdon. It is now vested in the Guildford family.

A branch of the *Finch family* was settled at Coldred, at the close of Elizabeth's reign, of whom there is a pedigree in the Heraldic Visitation of Kent, in 1619. There are no *parochial charities*. The poor constantly relieved, amount to about six; casually, only four.

THIS PARISH is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury, and the *deanery* of Sandwich.

The church, dedicated to St. Pancras, is a mean structure, containing only one aisle and a chancel; the steeple having been down many years. In the chancel are memorials of the Ockman's, of Deal, &c. This church was given to the priory of St. Martin, in Dover, by Archbishop Langton, at the commencement of the reign of Henry II. and confirmed by the chapter of Christ church. In that state it continued till the dissolution, after which, it was granted by Henry VIII. with the advowson of the vicarage, &c. to the archiepiscopal see of Canterbury, in which it continues vested. Twenty acres of glebe land are annexed thereto. It is valued in the king's books at £6 2 6, and the yearly tenths at 12s. 3d.; the ancient yearly stipend of £4 is still disbursed by the archbishop to the vicar, as possessor of the priory lands of Dover. In 1588, the number of communicants was sixty, and the value £20. In 1640, the communicants were the same, but the valuation had increased £10. This vicarage, in the 12th of Charles II. was augmented

by Archbishop Juxon, in the yearly sum of £20, payable by the lessee of the great tithes, the same being confirmed in the 28th of that reign. It is now of the certified value of £35 7 9.

Archbishop Whitgift, in 1584, united this vicarage and that adjoining of Shebbertswell; and the primate, Sancroft, in 1680, again consolidated them, in which state they now remain.

A portion of tithes, as previously observed, was payable to the abbot and convent of Langdon, from lands of the manor of Popeshall; the same abbot being entitled to the small tithes of a tenement in this parish, held of the convent of Cumbwell. Concerning this, an agreement was entered into between the abbot and the monks of St. Martin's, in Dover, who were the appropriators of this church, in 1227. At this period, there are seventy acres of land belonging to Popeshall, and eighteen and a half to Newsole, tithe free, which are, to all appearance, the above portion of tithes. Another portion at present arises from ninety acres of land, in this parish, payable to the lords of the manor of Temple Ewell, adjoining.

From the last census of the population of the parish of Coldred, taken by order of Parliament, in 1821, the numbers of inhabitants were, males seventy-two, females fifty-three, making a total of 125 souls.

Whitfield, otherwise Bewsfield, is the next parish south-east from Coldred, having borne both the above titles, implying its high open situation, but the latter, written in domesday record *Bevesfel*, is the proper designation, that of *Whitfield* being more modern, although at the present day called by that name. The manor of *Norborne* claims *paramount* over the major part of this district.

The parish under review is small and narrow, very little frequented, occupying high ground in a poor country of open unenclosed land, the soil chalky and light, though in some few instances there are tracts of land more fertile than the generality of this parish. The church stands in the village called Whitfield Street, being situated at the south-east boundary, not far distant from which, is a hamlet called Lower Whitfield; to the west, in a dell, is Hazling wood, and northward, the hamlet of Pinham, containing three small farms. No fair is held here.

In the 1st year of the reign of Offa, A.D. 757, that prince

gave to the abbot of St. Augustine's his lands, called Bewesfeld, with licence to feed hogs and cattle in the royal wood, in which charter permission was accorded to take one goat in Snowlyn's wood, where the king's goats were fed. This land subsequently continued an appendant of the monastery until the taking of domesday record, wherein it is entered under the title of lands belonging to St. Augustine's.

Subsequent to the above period, that portion of the land comprehending this MANOR OF BEWSFIELD, was held of the abbot by knight's service, by the celebrated family of Badlesmere. Guncelin de Badlesmere, a justice itinerant, held the estate under King John, leaving one son, Bartholomew, and two daughters, Joane, married to John de Northwood, and another to John de Coningsby. Prior to his decease, he gave this estate in frank marriage with Joane, and her husband, Sir John of Northwood, a man in high repute under Edward I. and II. In this family the estate remained a considerable time, and was at length alienated to the Chelesford's, or Chelford's; from whom it passed, in the time of Henry VII. to the Boys's, of Fredville, whose descendant, Sir E. Boys, the elder, then possessed it, at which period the name of this manor appears to have dropped, and been blended with that adjoining of LINACRE COURT; under which name it has been ever since known. By the Boys's, in 1644, it went by sale to the Nowell's; and then to the Day's, who sold it to the Lanning's, of Wye; they again disposed of the property to Hercules Baker, esq. of Deal, when it was conveyed by marriage to Thomas Barrett, esq. of Lee. The last-mentioned possessor left the estate in jointure to his fourth wife, Catherine, daughter of Humphry Padner, esq.; who, dying in 1785, it descended to their only son, Thomas Barrett, esq. of Lee, in Ickham.

LINACRE MANOR or COURT, as it is at present called, wherein the manor of Bewsfield is now merged, lies south-west of this parish, adjoining Coldred and River, being the other part of the land given to St. Augustine's, and was held by knight's service of the abbot, by the family of Criol. From that line it went to the Malmain's, of Hoo, who possessed it in the reign of Edward II.; it was then carried in marriage to the Monyn's, who held it in the 20th of Edward III. In the 49th of the

above reign, we find it entered in the abbey register, as having belonged to John Solly, but it does not appear how long it continued in his descendants. It next passed to the Chelesford's; and then, with the manor of Bewsfield, as previously remarked, by sale, in the reign of Henry VII. to William Boys, of Fredville; after which, it devolved to the same owners, as Bewsfield, before described, down to Thomas Barrett, of Lee, &c. A court-baron is held for this manor.

The Manor of Whitfield, with that of Little Pising, and the Lands of Pinham were, under Henry III. vested in the crown; in the 13th of which reign, the great Hubert de Burgh, earl of Kent, &c. had a grant of the same, with licence to assign the property as he should think proper. Shortly after, that eminent character appears to have settled this manor and *Little Pising* on St. Mary's hospital, in Dover, afterwards called *Maison Dieu*, which had been recently founded by him; subsequent to which, Edward I. granted a charter of *free warren* to that institution, for their lands in Whytefield, and Coldred adjoining. This property remained thus vested until the dissolution, when it fell to the crown, and so continued, till Edward VI. in his 2d year, granted Whitfield and Little Pysing to Thomas Heneage and William Lord Willoughby, to hold *in capite* by knight's service. The manor was then sold to James Hales; by whose heirs it was held at the close of the reign of Elizabeth, after which, no mention is made of Whitfield, but that Little Pysing was sold to the Monins', of Waldershare. In that line the estate continued until 1663, when it was disposed of, with other lands at Pinham, to Sir Henry Furnese, bart.; who, dying in 1712, his granddaughter, Catherine, Countess of Rockingham, became possessed of Little Pising, in her own right, and of the lands at Pinham, jointly with her two sisters, in equal shares, in copaicenary in tail general. The interest of the latter possessor in these estates then went in like manner with Coldred, before mentioned, and her other estates in Kent, to her eldest grandson, the Earl of Guildford, in which family they remain.

This Parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury, and *deanery* of Dover.

The church, dedicated to St. Peter, consists of a nave and

two chancels; it has no steeple, and the whole presents a wretched structure. The roofing is supported by an unseemly pillar, in the centre, there being no monumental records, or any thing worthy notice. The church was originally appendant to the manor, and given to St. Augustine's, in 757, by King Offa. In 1221, being the 6th of Henry III. the abbot granted his right in this church to the convent of Combwell, to hold in perpetual alms, &c. However, although this fabric became appropriated to the convent of Combwell, it does not appear to have been endowed as a vicarage till 1441, being the 20th of Henry VI. when a composition was entered into by Archbishop Chichely, between the abbot and convent, and William Geddyng, vicar of this parish, touching his portion and the pensions belonging to this church. In this state the appropriation and vicarage remained, until the dissolution of the priory of Combwell, for so it was then esteemed. Henry VIII. in his 29th year, granted this priory and its lands, &c. including this appropriation and advowson of the vicarage of Beausfield, otherwise Whitfield, to Thomas Colepeper, esq. to hold *in capite*. Being, five years after, passed back to the crown, it was immediately granted to Sir John Gage; who, the following year, exchanged this property with the archbishop of Canterbury; since which it has remained vested in that see.

The church has, for many years, been regarded only as a curacy, the archbishop having the nomination thereto; it appears that Henry Hannington, vicar, at the instance of Archbishop Abbot, by deed in 1613, renounced all right and title which he possessed in virtue of the endowment made by Archbishop Chicheley, between the then vicar of this church, and the prior and convent of Combwell.

In the 8th of Richard II. the church was valued at £12, and the vicarage at £4; which, owing to its smallness, was not taxed to the tenth; the latter is valued in the king's books at £5 18 8. It formerly paid 12s., and tenths to the crown receiver, but being certified only of the annual value of £26, it is now discharged of first-fruits and tenths. In 1588 the communicants numbered eighty-two, and the value was only £15. In 1640 it was estimated at £45. In 1661 Archbishop Juxon augmented the income by £20 per annum, payable by the lessee of the parsonage, which was further confirmed by deed in the 28th of

Charles II. It now ranks a discharged living, of the yearly certified value of £26. There was a stipend to the parson of Bewsfield, payable yearly out of the lands of the convent of St. Radigund, which was granted to the archbishop, anno 29th of Henry VIII.

According to the last census of the population, taken by order of parliament in 1821, the numbers of inhabitants of the parish of Whitfield were as follow: males 112, females 95, making a total of 207 souls.

West Langdon is the next parish northward, and derives its name from a long down, or ridge of hills, whereon it is situated, as well as to distinguish it from the adjoining parish of East Langdon, in the hundred of Cornilo, before described, being sometimes written in ancient documents *Monken Langdon*, from the monastery formerly existing here. The manors of Norborne and East Langdon claim over some parts of this parish.

This district is situated among the high hills and capacious valleys of this part of the county, being, like the adjoining parishes, open and unenclosed, with no wood, and but little sheltered; the soil is also chalky, and, generally speaking, poor. West Langdon does not contain more than 600 acres: the church has been in a ruinous state since the year 1660, which, with about twelve dwellings, constitutes the village, standing round a green plot, containing one acre in circumference, situated in the centre of the parish. A quarter of a mile to the east are the ruins of the abbey, and the building called the Abbey farm; the latter having been modernised by the Thornhill's, but now in a very miserable state.

The manor was anciently a portion of the lands constituting the barony of Averanches, otherwise Folkestone, held by knight's service, and ward to Dover castle, by the family of Auberville, or *De Albrincis*, as styled in Latin deeds; the capital seat of that family having been at Westenhanger; one of whom, Sir Richard de Auberville, senior, dwelt there under Richard I. holding this manor as above. In the 4th year of that reign, A.D. 1192, he founded with inthis manor, an Abbey *for white canons of the Premonstratensian fraternity*, removed hither from Leyston in Suffolk, in honour of the Blessed Virgin, and St.

Thomas the Martyr of Canterbury. He appropriated this estate, with other lands, as an endowment of the above institution, in perpetual alms, free from secular service and payment, afterwards confirmed by Simon de Auberville, and, in the 30th of Edward I. by Sir Nicholas de Criol, great grandson by a female heir of the founder. This abbey thenceforward came under the patronage of the Criol's; after which, in the 19th of Edward II. Edward earl of Chester, that king's eldest son, and guardian of England, was at Langdon, on the 3d of August.

It does not appear whether the revenues were insufficient for the maintenance of an abbot, but it is certain that the election of such a dignitary was discontinued, and the fraternity subjected to a prior, as proved the case at Combwell, and other religious establishments. In this state the fraternity continued until the dissolution, when the abbot, for so he was styled in the deed of surrender, gave every thing up to the king, when the house was of the yearly value of £47 6 10, and of the gross revenue of £56 6 9.

The manor of West Langdon, with the site of the abbey, &c. was granted by Henry VIII. except the advowsons of churches, to Archbishop Cranmer, who exchanged the same shortly after with the crown, where they continued till Elizabeth, in her 33d year, granted the estate to Samuel Thornhill, esq. of London. In his descendants it continued until alienated to the Masters's, of East Langdon; from which family, at the commencement of the reign of Queen Anne, it fell to Henry Furnese, esq. of London, by whom it was passed to the Coke's, of Holkham, in Norfolk, who, by will, devised the estate to his brother Edward Coke, esq. afterwards of Canterbury; having subsequently passed into other hands, this property fell to the Cage's, of Combe, in Bersted. A court-baron is held for this manor. There are no parochial charities, and the poor constantly maintained amount to about five.

West Langdon is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury, and *deanery* of Sandwich.

The church, as previously observed, is in a dilapidated state; Sir Thomas Peyton, bart., in 1660, had an idea of repairing the edifice, but after providing various materials for that laudable purpose, they were stolen during the night by the country

people. The ruins still display a nave and chancel, but the roofing is very deficient, and in the structure is a gravestone to the memory of Sir Timothy Thornhill, who was one of the possessors of the abbey.

West Langdon church was formerly appendant to the manor, and of the patronage of the abbot of West Langdon, whereto it was appropriated until the dissolution, when the whole was granted by Henry VIII. to the archbishop, who soon after exchanged the same with the crown. The primate, however, retained this church, which continues in the patronage of his successors, who now hold the same. It is valued in the king's books at £6 13 4, but since the dissolution has been only esteemed a curacy, of the yearly value of £16.

The demesnes of the abbey are exempted from paying great tithes, but subject to the disbursement of £6 yearly to the curate.

The governors of Queen Anne's bounty augmented this curacy with £30 per annum, being the amount of the purchase-money of a small farm in this parish; Guston and Little Mongeham were purchased for the augmenting the vicarages of West Langdon and Guston. There are three acres of glebe land, but no vicarage house.

The rectors of East Langdon have long been successively nominated by the several archbishops to this curacy.

From the last census of the population of the parish of West Langdon, as taken by order of parliament in 1821, it appears that the numbers of inhabitants were, males 41, females 45, making a total of 86 souls.

Guston is the next parish to the south-east of West Langdon, written in domesday *Gociston*, and in other ancient records *Gounceston* and *Gusseton*. There is a borsholder for this borough, chosen at the court-leet of Dover priory, which court claims *paramount* over the whole district. Ripple manor likewise claims over part of this parish, as well as the manor of East Langdon.

This small Parish, distant about two miles from Dover, is very unfrequented, and consequently little known; it lies equally with those recently described among the high hills and deep valleys that extend throughout this part of the country,

consisting of down, being open and unenclosed, the nature of the land chalky and poor, and a considerable portion covered with furze and heath. The village, with its church, occupies the northern part, containing nothing further worthy of being recorded.

The Manor of Guston formerly belonged to the abbot and convent of St. Augustine, who held it as a prebend in the church of St. Martin, in Dover. It does not, however, appear to have been so given, until subsequent to the taking of Domesday record, in 1080, where it is entered under the general title, as part of the possessions of the canons of Saint Martin.

Not long after the above period, this prebend was given to the monastery of St. Augustine; and, in 1179, the abbot obtained a papal bull for its confirmation to himself, and his successors, several others being subsequently obtained from the future popes, for a similar purpose.

In the 7th of Edward II. A.D. 1313, it appears, from the *Iter* of Henry de Stanton, &c. that the abbot, upon a *quo warranto*, was allowed certain liberties in this manor of *Goucistone*, and, among others, view of frank pledge and weif, as having been long granted by previous monarchs, which was confirmed by the above prince, in the 6th year of his reign. The same was equally allowed in the last *Iter* of J. de Berewick, the whole being afterwards confirmed by Edward III. by *inspeximus*, and subsequently by Henry VI. In the reign of Richard II. the measurement of the abbot's lands at Gonstone, consisted of 109 acres of pasture ground.

In the above state this manor remained, as well as that of Frith, usually called *the Fright*, from its heathy situation in the district adjoining Buckland and Charlton, together with part of the possessions of St. Martin's, until the dissolution. Henry VIII. in his 29th year, granted this manor, with the site of the priory, &c. in exchange to the archbishop, who is at present entitled to the inheritance of the same. No courts are held for these manors, nor do they possess any material rights, the manor of Dover priory claiming such privileges over them.

Guston is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury, and *deanery* of Dover. The church, which is exempted from the archdeacon, is dedicated to St.

Martin, and consists of only one aisle and a chancel, having neither tower, steeple, monument, nor a single object worthy notice.

This church constituted part of the ancient priory of St. Martin, whereto it was appropriated by Archbishop Edmund, A.D. 1239, with a reserve of eight marks to the vicar, for his portion, which was confirmed by the pope. On the dissolution, the whole was granted by Henry VIII. in his 29th year, to the Archbishop of Canterbury, in exchange, subject to an annual payment of £4 to the vicar; since which, the whole has continued vested in that see, his grace being possessed of the same.

In 1384, being the 8th of Richard II. the vicarage, in consequence of its smallness, was not taxed to the tenth; in 1588, here were thirty-eight communicants, and in 1640, thirty-nine. It has long been accounted a chapel only, the archbishop nominating a perpetual curate, to whom he pays the ancient stipend of £4 yearly, the curate being also entitled to the small tithes of the parish.

Archbishop Juxon, in the 13th of Charles II. augmented this living by £10 per annum, payable out of the great tithes, the same being confirmed by that monarch. The curacy, prior to 1800, was returned of the yearly value of £14; it was afterwards increased by the governors of Queen Anne's bounty, conjointly with the adjoining parish of West Langdon, before described.

In 1821, there were thirty-seven dwellings in this parish; and, from the census of the population, then taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 110, females 96, making a total of 206 souls.

Oxney, in ancient records written *Oxene*, is situated at the north boundaries of this hundred, and, in that direction, adjoins St. Margaret's at Cliffe. The borsholder is chosen at the court-leet for the hundred of Bewsborough. This small parish possesses nothing remarkable, being similar in situation and appearance to those recently described; the air bleak, and the situation greatly exposed. The lands consist of open unenclosed corn fields, the soil chalky, and the major part poor. The court lodge, called Oxney house, is the only one in this parish.

The Manor of Oxney, in ancient times, belonged to the Auberville's, who held it by knight's service of Hamo de

Crevequer, as of the manor of Folkstone. Sir William de Auberville, of Westenhanger, possessed this manor in the reign of Richard I. whose grandson, of the same name, left an only daughter, Joane, who, having espoused Nicholas de Criol, he became possessed of this property. When the above family became extinct, the manor passed to the Sedley's, of Southfleet; and, under Henry VII. John Sedley, esq. auditor of the Exchequer, greatly contributed to the erection of the court lodge. In the last-mentioned line Oxney remained, till it was passed by sale to Rose Fuller, esq. of Sussex; who, dying possessed of this estate, in 1777, he devised it by will to John Trayton Fuller, esq. who had espoused his niece. No court is held for this manor.

The poor of this parish are maintained with those of St. Margaret at Cliffe, this parish paying after the rate of one third, and St. Margaret's two thirds, towards the relief of the poor of both parishes.

Oxney is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury, and *deanery* of Sandwich.

The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, has been long desecrated; the walls still remain, but it has no roof, and now serves for a barn. This edifice was formerly in possession of the Auberville's, who were equally owners of the manor, as before observed; one of whom, Sir William, under Richard I. having founded West Langdon abbey, annexed this church thereto, in perpetual alms; which gift was subsequently confirmed by his descendants, Simon de Auberville, or Albrincis, and Nicholas de Criol. The church thus continued with the abbey until the dissolution, when it was granted by Henry VIII. in his 29th year, with other possessions, to the archbishop of Canterbury; who, not long after, exchanged the site of the abbey, &c. with the advowson and appropriation of this church, with the crown; whence it was soon after granted to the family of Sedley, owners of Oxney manor, since which, the tithes, &c. of this desecrated church, have remained vested in the owners of this property.

There was an annual payment to the curate of this church, reserved for that purpose in the grant by King Henry VIII. of the site and lands of Langdon abbey, whereby it is obvious the church was not then desecrated.

Archbishop Walter granted license to the canons of West

Langdon, to officiate in this church, which was afterwards accounted a perpetual curacy.

Saint Margaret's at Cliffe, or *Saint Margaret's near Dover*, as it is sometimes called, and, in Domesday survey, *S. Margarita*, lies east of Guston, a small portion of the parish of Westcliffe only intervening. A borsholder for this parish is chosen at the court-leet of Dover priory.

This district lies very high upon the chalk cliffs adjoining the sea-shore, eastward, and is situated in a right angle across the channel to Calais, having the south Foreland at its southern boundary. The village and church stand a quarter of a mile from the brow of the cliff, which is nearly perpendicular from the beach, and 400 feet in height. Below, is a fine spring of fresh water, which flows plentifully on the retiring of the tide; there are also several other springs between this place and Dover, which uniformly rise on the decrease of the tides. A little bay is formed at this part, where, under the primacy of Archbishop Morton, a small jetty or pier existed, having been constructed by one Thomas Laurence, for the defence of the fishing craft. In and near this bay are caught the finest flavored lobsters that are to be found on any part of the English coast, they are small, and of a remarkably deep red colour.

This parish, like the foregoing, is bleak, and exposed among the hills that extend over this portion of Kent; part is enclosed, some districts, however, presenting an open range of pasture and arable plains; the soil, which is chalky, is, generally speaking, poor. The high road conducting from Dover to Deal runs along the western bounds of this parish.

A fair is held here on the 30th of July, in consequence of the alteration in the style; it was formerly celebrated on the day of Sts. Justin and Rufinus, being the 19th, for gloves, ribbons, toys, &c.

At the close of the reign of Henry VIII. the Upton's held *the manor of Wanston*, now called Wanson Farm, south of this parish; they continued possessors till the reign of Charles II. when it was sold to Richard Gibbon, gent. of Dover, who, in 1679, devised it to his grandson, Richard; after which, it went by purchase to the family of York.

Crithmum maritimum, samphire, and *Lychnis major noctiflora Dubrensis perennis*, the great night flowering Dover campion, grow very plentifully on the perpendicular chalk cliffs, and along the same, as far as Dover. *Crambe maritima*, sea colewort, is also found in this parish, and *Calendula officinalis*, or the garden marigold, grows upon the sea-beach in abundance.

The Manor of St. Margaret at Cliff, otherwise *Palmer's* or *East Court*, most probably, in former times, constituted part of the possessions of St. Martin's priory, in Dover, and so continued until the dissolution. How this property afterwards passed, does not appear, or who were its owners, till it became vested in the family of Eaton; in which line it remained, till Peter Eaton, gent. in the 17th of Charles I. A.D. 1642, alienated it to Bartholomew Planker, merchant, of Dover, who devised it to the children of his relative, John Francis. William Francis possessed the estate in 1679, who was succeeded by John Francis. However, in 1710, it became vested in William Denne, gent.; whence it passed again to the name of Francis, as, in 1717, William Francis alienated this manor to William Tindale, A.M. of Trinity hall, Cambridge; by whom it was passed to John Chitty, of St. Margaret's; who, in 1730, sold the property to Mr. Richard Solly, of Sandwich; from whom it devolved to Richard Heaton Solly, esq. of St. Margaret's.

The Manor of Reach, commonly called *Ridge*, the mansion of which stands in the southern part of this parish, constituted part of the possessions of the priory of St. Martin, in Dover, it being so registered in the survey of Domesday.

At the suppression of religious houses, this manor, with the advowson of the church of St. Margaret, did not remain long in the king's hands, as they were granted by Henry VIII. in the 29th year of his reign, in exchange to the archbishop of Canterbury, in which state they still remain. A court-baron is held for this manor.

This Parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury, and *deanery* of Dover. The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, is exempt from the archdeacon. It is a large structure, very strongly built, with a tower steeple at the west end, having many characteristic embellishments within and without, to demonstrate its antiquity. This

church is preferable to most of the ecclesiastical structures in these parts; the roof rests upon two rows of pillars and semicircular arches; the chancel is lofty and very handsome, being separated from the body of the building by a beautiful semicircular arch; another, over the west door, is also richly ornamented in the Saxon taste, with rude heads, &c. There are several small arches and niches in the side walls of the nave, above the roof of the two side aisles, the nave or middle aisle rising above them, in the nature of a choir. The square tower had originally four small turrets, one at each angle; but, in 1711, that to the west, with part of the tower, falling down, and the same never having been repaired, the remaining three turrets were taken down to render the structure uniform. Several years back, the chancel was handsomely wainscoted and carved by order of Mr. Richard Crook, of Bekesborne, then lessee of the great tithes.

This church was formerly an appendage to the manor, and part of the possessions of St. Martin, whereto it was early appropriated, and a vicarage endowed therein, A.D. 1296. It so remained until the dissolution, after which, it was granted by Henry VIII. to the archbishop, in exchange with a reservation of forty shillings yearly pension to the vicar, since which, it has continued appendant to the see of Canterbury.

The vicarage is valued in the king's books at £6 10 *per annum;* in 1588, here were eighty-eight communicants, and the yearly value was £20. In 1661, Archbishop Juxon augmented this vicarage by £26 *per annum,* which was confirmed *anno* 28 of Charles II. It is now a discharged living, of the clear yearly value of £46. In 1721, the vicarage house was burnt down, since which it has never been rebuilt.

In the year 1821, the number of houses in this parish was eighty-seven, and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow, males 351, females 262, making a total of 613 souls.

WESTCLIFFE is so called from being situated west of the adjoining parish of St. Margaret at Cliffe, last described, as well as to distinguish it from that of Cliff at Hoo, near Rochester. This parish stands very high on the hills, and is much exposed;

it is in part open, and partly enclosed, comprising arable and pasture downs, extending to the lofty chalk cliffs on the sea-shore, and the South Foreland standing thereon. The high road from Dover to Deal traverses this district; its greatest extent being from north to south, in the middle of which stands the village and church adjoining. It is, equally with the neighbouring parishes, very dry and healthy, the soil being, for the most part, chalky; notwithstanding which, it contains good fertile lands. The height and continuance of the hills, and the depth and spacious width of the valleys, combined with a wildness of nature, are the leading features in this part of Kent, greatly contributing to render it an agreeable *sejour:* added to this, the numerous diversified prospects over the adjoining country as well as the sea, comprising also the French coast in the distance, render the *coup d'œil* truly enchanting.

The Manor of Westcliffe, otherwise *Wallett's Court*, was, under the reign of the Conqueror, part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Bayeux, being so recorded in the survey of Domesday. On the disgrace of that prelate, this manor was granted to Hamo de Crevequer, who was succeeded therein by the Criol's, which family held the estate under Henry III., in the 40th of whose reign, John de Criol, younger son of Bertram, died, leaving Bertram his son and heir, who alienated the property to Sir Gilbert Peche. By the latter it was soon conveyed to Edward I. and Eleanor his queen, for the use of that princess, who died holding the estate, in the 19th year of the same reign. It does not appear how long it afterwards remained vested in the crown; but, in the 20th of Edward III. Gawin Corder held it by knight's service, of the honour of Perch, that is to say, the constabularie of Dover castle.

Sir Gawin only possessed this manor for his natural life, as the king, the year following, granted the reversion to Reginald de Cobham, for his services, particularly in France. He was son of John de Cobham, of Cobham, by his second wife, Joane, daughter of Hugh de Nevil, whose son Reginald was of Sterborough castle, on which account all his descendants were called of that place. Reginald possessed this manor, whose eldest son Sir Thomas Cobham died possessed of this estate, held *in capite*, in the 11th of Edward IV. having an only daughter, Anne, who conveyed it in marriage to Sir Edward Borough, of Gainsborough,

in Lincolnshire, the lands of whose grandson, Thomas Lord Burgh, were *disgavelled* by an Act passed the 31st of Henry VIII. His son, William Lord Burgh, succeeded, holding the manor *in capite*, who, in the 15th of Elizabeth, alienated the same to Mr. Thomas Gibbon, who resided here. Matthew, the eldest son of Thomas, rebuilt the seat in 1627, and dwelt therein as well as several of his descendants, to Thomas Gibbon, gent. who, in 1660, sold the estate to Streynsham Master, esq. subsequently, in 1718, created Lord Aylmer, of the kingdom of Ireland. His descendant, Henry, devised it to his youngest son, the Hon. and Rev. John Aylmer, by whom it was alienated to George Leith, esq. of Deal, and he passed the property away by sale to the two daughters and coheirs of Mr. Thomas Peck, surgeon, of Deal. Those females married two brothers, namely, James Methurst Pointer, and Ambrose Lyon Pointer, gentlemen of London, who, in consequence, became jointly possessed of this manor.

Bere, or Byer Court, as it is sometimes written, occupying the southern part of this parish, was once accounted a manor, and constituted part of the demesnes of a family so named; one of whom, William de Bere, was bailiff of Dover in the 2d and 4th years of Edward I. When that family became extinct, the manor passed to the Brockman's, and then to the Toke's, a family previously established at Westcliffe. John Toke, descended from the purchaser of this manor, resided here under Henry V. and VI. as well as his son Thomas, who, by Joane, daughter of William Goldwell, esq. of Godington, in Great Chart, had three sons, Ralph, who succeeded him; Richard, who died; and John, the youngest, who had the estate at Godington, where his descendants lived. Ralph resided at Bere in the reign of Henry VIII. and in his line the estate continued until the close of last century, when Nicholas Tooke, or Tuck, as the name was then written, dying possessed of it, his heirs conveyed it by sale to the trustees of George Rooke, esq. of St. Laurence, who died holding this property, which had lost all right of having been a manor in 1739; leaving it to his widow, Frances, by whom it was alienated to Thomas Barrett, esq. of Lee, who died in 1757, when it descended to his only son, Thomas Barrett.

SOLTON stands to the north, and was once accounted a manor; it anciently constituted part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Bayeux, under which title it is entered in Domesday record. Four years after, being disgraced, William the Conqueror granted this property to Jeffry de Peverel, which, with other estates, constituted the barony so called, held *in capite* for the defence of Dover castle. Of the heirs of Jeffery, this manor was afterwards held by the Cramaville's, by knight's service; Henry de Cramaville possessing the same in the 54th of Henry III. as ward to Dover castle. Subsequently part of the estate was vested in the hospital of *Maison Dieu*, in Dover, the manor and mansion of Soltan passing to the Holand's. Henry of that name possessed this part of the estate in the 35th of Edward I. *in capite*, as of the honour of Peverel, and it so continued till Henry Holand, dying the 10th of Richard II. his daughter, Jane, possessed the manor. It next devolved to the Frakner's, and then to the Laurence's, from whom it passed to the Finet's, who resided here in the reign of Elizabeth, being a descendant of John Finet, of Sienna, in Italy, a very ancient family, who came to England with Cardinal Campegeus, in the 10th of Henry VIII. His son, Sir John Finet, master of the ceremonies to James and Charles I. also resided here, and died in 1641. By Jane, his wife, daughter of Henry Lord Wentworth, he left two daughters and coheirs, Lucia and Finette, who became entitled to this manor, which was afterwards alienated to the Matson's, whose descendant Henry, in 1720, devised it with other property to the trustees of Dover harbour, for the repairs of the same. There are no *parochial charities;* the poor constantly maintained are about sixteen, and casually six.

This parish is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Dover. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is small, containing an aisle and a chancel, there being in the latter a stone to the memory of Matthew Gibbon, who built Westcliffe house, and died in 1629. As divine service is only performed here once a month, little care is taken of the edifice. The church was given by Queen Eleanor, wife of Edward I. with an acre of land, and the advowson, &c. to the prior and convent of Christ church, in perpetual alms, free from secular service, in exchange for the port of Sandwich, which was confirmed by the above monarch. In

1327, being the 2d of Edward III. the parsonage was appropriated to the almonry of the priory for maintaining the chantry founded by prior Henry de Estry. In this situation it continued till the dissolution, when the appropriation and advowson of the vicarage were, with other lands, settled by Henry VIII. in his 33d year, on his newly elected dean and chapter of Canterbury, in which state they still continue.

On the sequestration of the possessions of deans and chapters, after the death of Charles I. this parsonage was valued in 1650, by order of the state, at the improved yearly rental of £62.

The vicarage of Westcliffe is not valued in the king's books; in 1640 the estimate was £10, and the communicants twenty; it is now of the annual value of £24. In 1821 this parish contained five houses, at which time the census of the population was taken by order of parliament, when it appeared that the numbers of inhabitants were, males 39, females 13, making a total of fifty-two souls.

Ewell, written in Domesday record, *Ewelle* and *Etwelle*, is situated in the valley adjoining southward from Whitfield, otherwise Bewsfield, and derives its name from the spring rising there. It was anciently known also by the name of *Temple Ewell*, in consequence of the knight's templars possessing this manor. Patrixborne manor claims over the farm of Waterend in this parish, for which a borsholder is chosen at the court-leet of the hundred. Ewell stands three miles west from Dover, the soil is not fertile, consisting mostly of hard chalk, and an unproductive red earth, abounding also in sharp flint stones. The village, with its church, is in a capacious valley, extending to the land's-end at Dover, the high London road traversing the same. The dwellings are little better than cottages, and mostly constructed of flints; the whole presenting a poor appearance, while the situation is far from being pleasant.

In this valley rises the head of the river Dour, being at the western boundary of the parish, which, a little below Casney court, receives another stream of the same current, rising about two miles higher to the south, at the hamlet of Drelingore, in Alkham. This stream turns a corn-mill near the church, whence it flows on till it empties itself into the sea, at Dover. Part of this current being a kind of *nailbourne*, rises from some springs

in a meadow at Dreligore, which, in wet and windy weather, increase to the height of ten feet, running through the lands to the head of the Dour, at Chilton; those augmentations usually commencing in February, and terminating in March or April, when the wells of fifteen or sixteen fathoms deep are filled. The people in these parts entertain an idea, that this stream has a communication with the waters called the Liddon spouts, in the cliffs, at Hougham, about four miles hence, of which we shall again have occasion to speak. Leland, referring to this river, remarks, "As concerning the river of Dovar, it has no long course from no spring or hedde notable, that descendith to that botom. The principal hed, as they say, is at a place cawled Ewelle, and that is not past a iii or iiii myles fro Dovar. There is also a great spring at a place called . . . , and that ones in a vi or vii yeres brasted owt so abundantly, that a great part of the water commeth into Dovar streme, but elsyt renneth yn to the se betwyxt Dovar and Folchestan, but nearer to Folchestan, that ys to say, withyn a ii myles of yt. Surely the hedde standith so, that it might, with no great cost, be brought to run away into Dovar streme."

The hills in this district rise very high on either side, the valleys which are particularly deep and hollow; the high grounds are, for the most part, unenclosed, some being arable, and others covered with greensward, furze, and broom, at different intervals. These stupendous eminences are, in every respect, calculated to excite admiration, the prospects they afford being beautifully romantic and novel; terminating with Dover town, its castle, and the sea beyond; while, in the blue distance, are perceptible the hills of Boulogne, and the French coast. In the valley at the western part of this parish, on either side of the London road, are the farms of Great and Little Waterend, so called from being near the rise of the river Dour. Close behind the latter, upon the hill, appear to have been thrown up a line of breastworks, with a large barrow above; other *tumuli* being also scattered about, on the different eminences in the vicinity of Dover.

On the hill to the left, one mile from the village, is the court-lodge of this manor, called Temple Farm, standing near the site of the ancient structure, inhabited by the Knights Templars, of which no vestige now remains, as it was completely destroyed

about ninety years back. Many writers, as previously observed, have surmised, that this was the house wherein King John resigned his crown and realm to the Legate Pandulph, in 1213; owing to the pardon of Archbishop Langton, one effect of the above meeting, being dated at the Temple of Ewell; while some conceive it was ratified at Dover. Other historians have placed this meeting in the house of the commandry of the Templars at Swingfield; we have, however, in this volume, p. 84, adduced reasons for conjecturing, that the humiliating act in question, was ratified by King John, at Dover, although Hasted and others have conceived, that no institution of the Templars ever had existence in that town.

Near this spot stand Archer's court, and farther on, Old Park hill, having been formerly the park belonging to the Templars. Upon the acclivity is a white mansion, fitted up by Dr. Osborne, a distinguished object, between the break of the hills, to the adjacent country, which commands a very extensive and diversified prospect. On the opposite side of this village, the parish stretches up the hills, on the summits of which is a common, called, from the barrenness of its soil, Scotland common; and still farther on, another, more extensive, called Ewell Minnis, where it unites with Alkham, in a very wild and dreary country.

When the survey of Domesday was taken, the bishop of Bayeux held the major portion of this parish, it being there entered under the general title, of lands belonging to that rapacious churchman. After the disgrace of Odo, all his possessions here were confiscated, containing the major part of this parish, as well as that of River adjoining. This parish was constituted the *Superior Manor*, afterwards named THE MANOR OF EWELL, or TEMPLE EWELL, which, under the Conqueror, was held by Hugh de Montfort, but, being escheated to the crown, on the exile of his grandson, Robert, in the time of William Rufus, it was granted to William, the king's brother, and William Peverelle, who bestowed the same in alms upon the Templars, as appears from the inquisition taken of their possessions in 1185; the above gift was subsequently increased in this and the neighbouring parishes, by the donations of many others.

On the dissolution of the order of Knights Templars, A. D. 1312, at a general council held at Vienna by Pope Clement V. that pontif conferred their lands on the Knights Hospitallers of

St. John of Jerusalem, which was confirmed the ensuing year by Edward II. That monarch, by the Act alluded to, granted all their possessions for godly uses, so that the Hospitallers remained masters of these estates until the general dissolution of their order by Henry VIII. The Knights Hospitallers being reinstated by letters patent, dated the 4th and 5th of Philip and Mary, many of their ancient possessions were restored to them by the crown; however, it does not appear that this community was ever actually reestablished, and, on the accession of Elizabeth, two years after, it was finally abolished.

This Manor, with the advowson and appropriation of the vicarage, was, in the 5th of Edward VI. granted to Edward Lord Clinton, and Saye, lord high admiral, to hold *in capite:* who, shortly after, reconveyed the same to the crown, when the above monarch conferred them on Sir William Cavendish; who, the same year, alienated them to Sir Richard Sackville; who, at the commencement of the reign of Elizabeth, passed them to Winifred, marchioness of Winchester. That peeress, in the 24th of the above queen's reign, sold them to Thomas Digge and William Boys; by whom they were very soon passed to John Daniell, whose two daughters conveyed them in marriage to John Mabb and William Wiseman; who, at the close of that reign, sold the same to Mr. Robert Bromley, mercer, of London. The latter, in the early part of the reign of James I. conveyed them to William Angell, of London; in whose descendants they continued down to John Angell, esq. of Stockwell, Middlesex; who, in 1784, devised them to Mr. Benedict Brown, his next heir general. By the last-mentioned possessor the manor of Ewell, with the rectory impropriate, and advowson of the vicarage, were transferred to William Osborne, esq. of London, M. D. who took up his residence at *Old Park place*, which he caused to be enlarged and beautified for that purpose. A court-leet and court-baron is held for this manor.

There is a portion of tithes arising from ninety acres of land in Coldred, payable to the lords of Temple Ewell manor.

The Manor of Temple, otherwise Boswell Banks and Downe, called in Domesday record *Brochestelle*, and in other deeds *Brostall*, lies south of this parish, and partly in that adjoining of Swingfield. Under the Conqueror, this property was vested in Odo, bishop of Bayeux, being so entered in the great

survey then taken. On the disgrace of that ecclesiastic, all his possessions reverted to the crown; subsequent to which, from an inquisition, it appears that this manor was held by Sir Robert de Clottingham; who gave Brosthall, with its appurtenances in Swynfelde, to the Knights Templars; on whose suppression, they devolved to the Hospitallers, and so continued until the dissolution. By Queen Elizabeth, the estate was granted to Stokes, of Waterend, in this parish; in which line it remained, till alienated, during the same reign, to the Harvey's; from which name, under Charles I. it passed to Captain Temple of Dover. At the commencement of the reign of Charles II. this manor passed by sale to the Freeman's, of this parish; and was then purchased by Captain Fagg, of Updown, near Eastry; who, about the year 1777, alienated the property to Mr. Henry Belsey; who, dying in 1792, it went to his son, Mr. William Belsey. There is no court held for this manor.

Parochial Charities do not exist in this parish; there are only two or three poor constantly relieved, and, casually, the same number.

THIS PARISH is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Dover.

The church, dedicated to Saints Peter and Paul, is an ancient fabric, consisting of one aisle and a chancel, with a low square tower at the west end; it contains no object whatsoever deserving further notice.

This church was uniformly appendant to the manor, and early appropriated to the Templars, then to the Hospitallers; upon whose suppression, it passed to various owners, as before enumerated, ultimately devolving to William Osborne, esq. of London, M.D.

In 1588, there were 112 communicants, and it was valued at £15. In the king's books it is estimated at £6 13 4, and the yearly tenths at 13s. 4d.; it is now of the yearly certified value of £13 10 8.

In 1821, there were forty-eight dwellings in this parish; and, according to the last census of its population, then taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 180, females 160, making a total of 340 souls.

THE PARISH OF RIVER, situated eastward of Ewell, is

written in Domesday survey *Ripa* and *Ad Ripam:* while other Latin records give it the name *Riparia:* English deeds calling it *River*, from the stream that flows through it. A borsholder is chosen for this parish at the hundred court, and another for that portion of the manor of Archer's court, standing in the parish of Whitfield, at the court-leet of that manor.

River is very pleasantly situated, being distant about two miles from Dover, the country variegated by lofty hills and deep extensive valleys; the high London road runs through this place, to the left of which, the unenclosed down hills rise very sudden and high. The slope of the vale on the opposite side, is equally abrupt, to the extent of two or three fields, at the foot of which, the Dour meanders its limpid waters. On the farther bank of that little current, is a straggling row of neat built dwellings, among which are paper, corn, and seed mills, the whole constituting the village of River. The church occupies the centre, beyond which, the hills again become very elevated, the land being in many parts arable, interspersed by coppices and clumps of wood, presenting a very picturesque appearance from the London road. Straight forward, through the chasm of the valley, is a fine prospect of Dover town and its churches, with the British channel and the French coast; while, on the brow of the cliffs, to the left, stands the bold and massive pile constituting Dover castle. The neat scenery, with the highly cultivated meadow lands, whereby the rural village of River is surrounded, beautifully harmonises with the magnificent seat, called Kernsey Abbey, built by the late J. M. Fector, esq. in the monastic style, in 1821. To the north is Archer's court, the seat of G. Stringer, esq. a very charming residence; while, in different directions, paper-mills are seen diversifying the scenery of this beautiful *sejour.*

The soil on the hills of this parish northward, is, generally speaking, chalky, and on those in an opposite direction it is intermixed with a reddish earth, abounding in sharp flints, being very barren. In the vale near the river, the meadows are rich and fertile, and upon the eminence to the left of the London road, are many *tumuli,* some of which were opened a few years back, when a skeleton was discovered, as well as a sword three feet long and two inches broad, together with the head of a spear.

From the *Testa de Nevill*, it appears this parish, at the close of the reign of King John, was an escheat of the crown, and held in three parts: namely, one by Dover castle, another part by the canons of St. Radigund, and a third by Soloman de Dover, of the gift of the above king, the whole being valued at £30. The former subsequently came into the possession of the hospital of St. Mary, or *Maison Dieu*, of Dover; the second to St. Radigund's, as will be further noticed hereafter; and the third, was, what is now called Archer's court, also situated within the bounds of this parish.

The Manor of River, in that third part of this parish, first above mentioned, appears, in the time of the Conqueror, to have been part of the possessions of Hugh de Montfort, and probably described among the lands previously enumerated in Domesday record, under the parish of Ewell. His lands, on the exile of his grandson, Robert de Montfort, fell to the crown; which were afterwards granted to Bernard de Ver, constable of England, who had espoused Adeliza, daughter of Hugh de Montfort; after which, the property went to Henry de Essex, alike constable of England. Henry de Essex was baron of Raleigh, in Essex, and hereditary standard bearer of England, as before mentioned in this volume, who, on account of his cowardice, forfeited his possessions to the crown, among which was that of River. It then remained in the king's hands until the 13th of Henry III. who, at the petition of the famous Hubert de Burgh, earl of Kent, confirmed it to St. Mary's hospital, at Dover; after which, in the 21st of Edward I. on a *quo warranto*, the master of *Maison Dieu* was allowed the accustomed privileges of a manor in this parish. Henry VI. afterwards confirmed it to the hospital; in which state it continued till the suppression, and remained vested in the crown uninterruptedly until the reign of Charles II. when it was alienated by that prince to the dean and chapter of Rochester; in whose possession it still continues. A court-leet and court-baron is held for this manor.

Archer's Court is a manor situated in the northern part of this parish, on the hills adjoining that of Whitfield; in which parish, as well as those of Guston and Waldershare, portions of it are also situated.

Under King John, as before stated, this manor was held by

Soloman de Dovere, who seems to have been the same person as is mentioned in the pleas of the crown, in the 21st of Edward I. under the name of Soloman de Champs, or Chauns, who, from residing at Dover, might be styled as of that place. By the inquisition taken after his death, in the 31st of the above reign, he is also said to have held lands, called Coperland and Atterton, part of this manor, of the king *in capite*, by the service of holding the king's head, between Dover and Whitsond, when he should happen to pass the sea between those ports, and there should be occasion for the same. Soloman was succeeded by his son, Gregory de Dovere, but no mention of his name is afterwards made; we then find that the property fell to a family named Archer, or L'Archer, whence it derived the name of Archer's Court. In the 1st of Edward II. it was held by Nicholas Archer, and, in the 20th of Edward III. by William Archer; and, on that name becoming extinct, the manor was alienated to Bandred, or Brandred; in which line it continued some years, till, with the court-lodge, and part of the lands, together with Coperland, it was sold by one of the descendants, in the 1st of Edward IV. to Thomas Doilie, esq. and the remaining part of the demesne lands, since called *Little Archer's court*, to Sir George Browne, of Beachworth castle, as will be further described hereafter.

From a descendant of Thomas Doilie, this manor was, under Henry VIII. exchanged with the crown; when that monarch granted it to Sir James Hales; in which line it remained until sold to the Lee's, who passed this property to Sir Hardress Waller, of Dublin. In 1657, Sir Hardress and others alienated this manor to Sir Thomas Browne, of London; one of whose descendants sold it to Richard Rouse, of Dover; when the daughter of the latter conveyed the estate in marriage to Phineas Stringer, esq. of the above town. A court-leet and court-baron is held for this manor, and a borsholder chosen at this court for the borough of Archer's court only; this, however, is merely nominal, as he has never been known to act in that capacity.

THE OTHER PART *of Archer's Court*, sold in the reign of Edward IV. as previously observed, to Sir George Browne, of Beechworth castle, was afterwards known by the name of LITTLE ARCHER'S COURT. Sir George was sheriff in the 21st year of the above reign, but attainted the 1st of Richard III. and again

restored the 1st of Henry VII. His son, Sir Matthew, died in the reigns of Philip and Mary, possessing this property, with lands in River, called *Copland,* held *in capite* by serjeantry, according to the inquisition taken after his death. Sir Thomas Browne, grandson of Sir Matthew, having had his lands *disgavelled* by two Acts of the 1st and 8th of Elizabeth, afterwards alienated this estate to Capt. Isaac Honywood, who was slain at the battle of Newport, having devised it by will to his nephew, Col. Henry Honywood. The last mentioned possessor died in 1662, and was interred in Canterbury cathedral, in the register of which church, it states, that "*he was a Colonel some time under that grand rebel, Oliver Cromwell.*"

The estate then passed to the first cousin of the latter, Sir Thomas Honywood, of Mark's Hall, Essex, who died in 1666; since which period, it has regularly descended equally with Mark's Hall, in the family of the Honywoods.

Castney Court, as it is commonly called, but more properly *Kersoney,* is another manor, partly in the western portion of this parish, adjoining the river, and partly in the parishes of Ewell and Whitfield. It was, in ancient times, accounted part of the barony of Saye, held of Dover castle; and, at the close of the reign of Edward I. was held by the Paganel's, or Painall's. John, of that name, died in the 12th of Edward II. possessing this estate, leaving Maude, an only daughter; subsequent to which, we find it held by Elias de Bocton, by knight's service, under the description of lands at Kersony. It then passed to the Norwood's; and, in later times, to the Roper's, of St. Dunstan's, John of that name dying possessed of this estate, in the 5th of Henry VII. In that line it continued until the close of Elizabeth's reign, at which period it was sold to the Best's, of Canterbury; when, by George, the last of that name, the property was alienated to Capt. Nicholas Toke. After the death of Charles I. the latter conveyed his interest in Castney Court to Charles Fotherbye, esq. of Crixall, in Staple; whose son passed it to William Richards, of Dover; who, in 1701, devised it to his nephew, John Sladden, merchant, of Dover; from whom it passed to his sister, who married Mr. Thomas Fagge, of that town. At his death, the trustees of that lady, to carry the purposes of her will into effect, disposed of the property to Mr. William Andrews, of London; who, in 1788,

devised it to Thomas Biggs, esq. of Dover. A court-baron is held for this manor.

There are no *parochial charities;* the poor have a right of common on the Minnis, a heath, comprising 300 acres, called River Minnis, lying on the hills at the southern boundary of this parish, adjoining Polton. The workhouse is for the reception of paupers from the united parishes of Alkham, Capel, Hougham, River, Buckland, Charlton, and Whitfield: the poor constantly received amount to twelve, and about the same number casually.

This parish is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Dover. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a small structure, containing a nave and a chancel, there being no steeple or any thing within deserving of notice.

King John, in his 9th year, granted to the abbot of St. Radigund, of Bradsole, this church and the court of the manor, to hold in perpetual alms, for the erecting their abbey there, which was then at Bradsole; and, in the 17th of the same reign, license was also granted to that fraternity, to appropriate this church. However, notwithstanding this grant for removing the abbey to this parish, it was never put into effect, but continued at Bradsole until the dissolution, when the whole was granted by Henry VIII. in exchange with the archbishop of Canterbury. The appropriation of the church of River, with the advowson of the vicarage, were, however, excepted; since which, the whole has remained vested in the see of Canterbury.

In 1384, being the 8th of Richard II. the vicarage, owing to its smallness, was not taxed to the tenth. In the king's books it is valued at £7 1 0½, and is now of the annual value of £18. In 1588 and 1640, there were fifty-eight communicants. The archbishop still pays a pension of £2 13 4, formerly disbursed by the abbot of St. Radigund, to the vicar of this church.

In 1821, this parish contained ninety-six dwellings; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 380, females 321, making a total of 701 souls.

THE PARISH OF POLTON lies next to that of River in a south-

easterly direction, being within the bounds of this hundred. This wild and romantic district, nearly three miles from Dover, is so obscurely situated among the hills as to have escaped the notice of most historians. It is small, comprising only the manor with the farms of Polton, and St. Radigund, of about forty acres, and one cottage; the whole, being long and irregularly narrow, contains about 700 acres. The country and soil resemble those of Hougham, which we shall next describe, except that Polton is more wild and dreary. The manor house stands in a very deep and lonely valley, being no more than a farm house; all that now remains of the ancient mansion are some remnants of the walls, constructed of flints: on the adjoining hills, towards Dover, are uninclosed downs, consisting of chalky and barren soil.

When the survey of Domesday was taken, this parish constituted part of the possessions of Hugo de Montford, under the title of whose lands it is entered. After the voluntary exile of Robert de Montford, grandson of Hugh, under Henry I. his estates in Polton fell to the crown, the seniory of which was bestowed on Geoffry, Earl of Perch, of whom this MANOR OF POLTON was held by a family which thence took its surname. William and Sir Stephen de Polton are mentioned as owners of this property, in the Register of St. Radigund's Abbey, as well as their descendant Robert de Polton, who, in the time of Henry III. gave it to the above Abbey at Bradsole in perpetual alms. It further appears from the book of Dover Castle that the abbot subsequently held this estate, by knight's service, of that fortress, being part of the fees which constituted the barony called the *constabularie*, by the performance of ward for defence of the same. It thus continued until the dissolution, when the whole was granted by Henry VIII. except the advowsons of certain churches, to Archbishop Cranmer, who soon after reconveyed it to the crown. It was then vested in Thomas Cromwell, afterwards Earl of Essex, on whose attainder it fell with all his estates to the crown, and so continued until the reign of Philip and Mary; when it was granted to Edward Fynes, lord Clinton and Saye. By that nobleman, Polton was sold to Mr. Henry Hudson, and so continued, equally with Folkstone and his other estates in the neighbourhood, down to Sir Basil Dixwell, bart. of Brome, who, at the close of the reign of Charles II. passed it away to Sir

Cloudesley Shovel, admiral of the royal navy, who was unfortunately shipwrecked in 1707. This property then descended to his two daughters; on the division of whose inheritance, this manor fell to Anne, the younger, wife of John Blackwood, esq. He, in her right, dying possessed of this estate in 1777, it passed to his son, Shovel Blackwood, esq.; whose trustees, two years after, sold it to Mr. John Cunnick, of London; from whom it passed to G. C. Wilson, esq. No court is held for this manor.

The Manor of Bradsole, lying in the north-east part of this sequestered parish, was given by Walter Hacket, and Emma, his wife, with the consent of Richard I. and Walter de Polton, then mesne lord of the fee, and Stephen, his son, and heir to the *canons of the church of St. Radigund, of Bradsole*, who had established themselves here, A.D. 1191, being the 3d year of the above reign; which gift was confirmed by King John, in his 1st year.

Saint Radigund's, or Bradsole Abbey, was founded, about the year 1190, for canons of the *Præmonstratensian* order, but by whom is rather uncertain, though that honour has generally been ascribed to Jeffery, earl of Perch, and Maude, his wife. The first endowments appear to have been very splendid, and its revenues increased by numerous benefactors; wherefore it was of sufficient importance, in the latter part of the reign of Edward I. to entitle the abbots of this institution to have summonses to Parliament.

It appears that King Edward II. visited this abbey, and transacted business here, in the 13th year of his reign, A.D. 1319. In a manuscript visitation of this order, it is recorded, that St. Radigund's abbey was in a very ruinous condition, in the year 1500, and deficient in the number of its inmates, the abbot having wasted the income of his house in licentious pleasures. When Leland visited this monastery, a short time before its dissolution, the dilapidations had been repaired; his description of the edifice being as follows, vol. vii. p. 127: "St. Radigunde's standeth on the toppe of a hill, iii litle myles by west, and sumwhat by sowth from Dovar. There be white chanons, and the quier of the chyrche is large and fayr. The monaster ys at this time netely mayntayned, but yt appereth that yn tymes

past, the buildinges have bene ther more ample then they be now. There is on the hille fayre wood, but fresch water laketh sumtyme."' At the period of its suppression by Henry VIII. in 1535, the annual income was £142 8 9, and the clear yearly receipts £98 9 2½.

Among numerous persons of consequence buried in this sequestered spot, may be particularised several of the Criols, lords of Westenhanger; William Malmayns, in 1223; Henry Malmayns, in 1274, both lords of Waldershare; Thomas, lord Poynings, in the centre of the choir, in front of the high altar, in 1375; and John Kyryel, of Limne, in the high chancel, in 1504. The latter gave £6 13 4 for licence of sepulture, and to eight priests 20d. each, to convey his body from Bellavowe to St. Radigund's.

John Byngham, of the parish of St. John the Baptist, in Dover, in 1513, gave, by will, 3s. 4d. to the chapel of our Lady of St. Radigund's; and Elizabeth Wood, in 1523, bestowed half a sheet, to cover the altar of our Lady.

After the suppression of this abbey, it was granted to Archbishop Cranmer, who, in the course of a short time, reconveyed it to the king. In 1537, Henry VIII. let the premises and estate, which contained about 444 acres, to Richard Keys, of Folkstone, at the yearly rent of £13 10 4. The fee was then given to Thomas Cromwell, afterwards earl of Essex; on whose attainder, in 1530, it again reverted to the crown. In the reign of Philip and Mary, it was granted to Edward, Lord Clinton and Saye, and by that nobleman sold, in the reign of Elizabeth, to Simon Edolph, esq. who repaired the mansion, and resided here. The latter, dying in 1597, was succeeded by his son, Sir Thomas Edolph, knt. who died at St. Radigund's in 1645. After having devolved to the Chandler's and Cavendish's, it descended by entailment to the Sayer's, of Charing, in whose possession it still remains.

The whole precincts of this abbey appear to have been surrounded by a wide ditch and rampart, enclosing an extensive area; the walls of the out-buildings, gardens, &c. occupying a considerable extent of ground. The entrance gateway, of great strength and thickness, is nearly entire, and finely mantled with ivy, as well as the major part of the ruins. This entrance, above alluded to, opens by a large arch in the centre, now underset

with brickwork, having also a small arch adjoining for foot passengers, five lozenges, with a rose in chief, being sculptured on the key stone.

The north and west sides of the chapel, and the walls of the canons' dwellings, formerly part of the mansion occupied by the Edolph's, and now converted to a farm house, are still standing. The chapel had a projecting porch in the centre, which at present forms the end of the building. That portion of the front adjoining is curiously chequered with flints and stones; but the chief part of the ruins are of flint, coined with free stone. The barn and offices in the farm yard have some of the arched doorways still remaining in their original state.

Beneath the parlour of the farm house are said to be subterranean passages, extending to a considerable distance; and in the farm yard is a very capacious pond, said to have formerly been of much greater extent, and given the name of *Broad-sole*, (corrupted into Bradsole,) to this manor and abbey; the word *sole*, or *soale*, in the Kentish dialect, signifying a *Pond*.

No *parochial charities* exist here.

This Parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Dover. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, of which there are no remains left, was yet standing in 1523. On the site of that structure, half a mile south from the abbey, is a stone bearing an inscription, to perpetuate the memory of the spot whereon the building once stood.

This edifice was so very small as to have been designated, in the record of Domesday, by the word *Ecclesiola*; it continued appendant to Polton manor, till Stephen de Polton, with the approbation of Matthew de Polton, clerk, gave it to the convent of St. Radigund. We find no mention of this church in any valuation of Ecclesiastical benefices; and the abbot being exempted from tithes, as possessing the whole parish, it seems most probable that no profits arose from it, there being only two dwellings, independent of the abbey, in the whole district. The entire patronage being vested in the monastery, we may conjecture that one of the canons administered the sacraments to the few inhabitants of this parish; while the burials were, no doubt, performed within the precincts of the abbey, and, on that account, this small church or chapel has remained entirely un-

noticed. The exemption, however, of the lands from tithes, does not depend on the privileges formerly accorded to the Præmonstratensian order, but arose from the dilapidated state of the church, and no parson being presented, or an incumbent, since the dissolution of the abbey, who could of right lay claim to any tithes therein.

In 1821, there were three dwellings in the parish of Polton; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males twenty-one, females eight, making a total of twenty-nine souls.

Hougham, or *Huffam*, as it is called, and in Domesday record frequently written *Hicham*, being so styled in consequence of its lofty situation, is the next parish eastward from Polton, last described. A part only is within Bewsborough hundred; another within that of Folkstone; and the residue subject to the jurisdiction of the Cinque Ports and Corporation of the town and port of Dover. A borsholder for that portion of the parish within Bewsborough hundred, is chosen at the court-leet of the same.

The Parish of *Hougham* lies among the high eastern hills of this county, being very salubrious, though a wild and unfrequented district. In the centre of the parish are two streets, called Church Hougham and East Hougham; in the former stands the church, and at the south-west part a hamlet called West Hougham. A great portion of this district is enclosed, being interspersed with coppice woods and much rough land. The soil, generally speaking, is poor and barren, consisting either of chalk or red earth, covered with sharp flints, which also abound in the narrow roads. Towards the east, the ground lays high, being open and unenclosed down, over which the high road passes, leading from Folkstone to Dover, even to the sea-shore, over which the chalk cliffs rise to a stupendous height, whence the view of Boulogne and the French coast is grand and uninterrupted. We should not omit to mention that *Dover heights*, and the celebrated *cliff* bearing the designation of *Shakspeare's*, already described, are both situated in the parish of Hougham. Near the base of those cliffs, are three openings, called the *Lydden Spouts*, through which the subterranean cur-

rents continually empty themselves upon the beach; it being the belief of the country people, as previously observed, that the waters of Nailborne, at Drelingore, in Alkham, full four miles distant, communicate with these spouts, which augment in proportion to the increase of wind and stormy weather. Over the Lydden Spouts, midway down the cliff, are two capacious chambers, excavated out of the chalk, one within the other, called the *Coining house*, which are attained with great difficulty, the cliff being there upwards of 400 feet high.

When the plague raged in London, A.D. 1665, the contagion was conveyed to Dover, where numbers became victims, for the interment of whom, a piece of ground was purchased in Hougham parish, on the side of the hill that fronts the pier fort, and consecrated for that melancholy purpose, being ever since designated by the name of *the Graves*.

THIS PARISH was part of the lands given to Fulbert de Dover, for the defence of Dover Castle, which constituted the barony of Fulbert, or Fobert, held *in capite* by barony, of which Chilham became the principal seat, whence this place, according to the book of Dover Castle, was subsequently held by knight's service. Among the lands in question, was included THE MANOR OF HOUGHAM, otherwise THE ELMES, sometimes called *Great Hougham*, otherwise *Chilverton*, as well as *Southcourt*, from its situation, in reference to Northcourt, or Little Hougham, in this parish.

The manor was held, as above, by a family that took its name of Hougham from this parish, from which line it went to the Hougham's, of Weddington, in Ash, near Sandwich, now extinct, and from the last mentioned, in a collateral line, to those of St. Paul's, near Canterbury. One of the above-mentioned family, namely, Robert de Hougham, under Richard I. held it, and was present with that prince at the siege of St. John d'Acre, in Palestine. His descendant, Robert, having two daughters, Benedicta, married to John de Shelving, and the other to Waretius de Valoignes; the latter became entitled to this manor as a share of his wife's inheritance, and, in the 14th of Edward III. obtained a charter of *free warren* for his manor of Hougham. He left two daughters, one married to Sir Francis Fogge, and the other, Maude, to Thomas de Aldelyn, or Aldon, who, in her right, acquired this manor.

The latter died in the 35th of the above reign, who does not appear to have possessed more than a life interest in the estate, as Maude, prior to her demise, had enfeoffed William Tapaline, and others, in this manor, who passed it to Stephen, Richard, and John de Combe; the latter of whom, was of Hastingligh, and afterwards became sole possessor of this estate. In the 10th of Richard II. he conveyed it in trust for sale, when it passed to the Heron's; and so remained until the time of Henry IV. when it was alienated to William Fineux, gent. of Swingfield, who had three sons; Sir John, chief justice of the King's Bench, who purchased Haw house, in Herne, under which head an account will be given of him and his descendants; William, to whom his father gave this manor of Southcourt, and Richard, who was of Dover.

William, above named, resided at Hougham, who, dying in 1534, bequeathed the property to William, his brother's elder son, who also resided here, and in whose descendants the estate continued to Thomas Fineux, gent. of Dover; who, under Charles II. passed this manor to Robert Breton, gent. who lived at the mansion called *the Elmes*, in this parish. On the death of Robert, this manor devolved to his great grandson, M. Breton, esq. who alienated the same to Robert Lacy, esq. who resided at the Elmes, where he served the office of sheriff, in 1739. Upon the demise of the latter, seven years after, this property went to his son-in-law, Granado Pigott, esq.; who, in 1749, passed it away to Mr. Phineas Stringer, of Dover; at whose death, in 1757, having two sons, Phineas and George, the former succeeded his father in this manor and seat.

A court-baron is held for this manor, the bounds of which begin at High cliff, whence they stretch along the coast, to a place called Jew's Gut, and, there leaving the cliff, extend towards Capel; from which place, including West Hougham, they go to the Elmes and the land of Dover priory.

The Manor of Hougham Court, otherwise North-court, which latter name was derived from its situation, as regards the previously described manor of Southcourt, was included as a portion of the lands, which, as we have before observed, was given to Fulbert de Dover, and, with other property, constituted the barony of Fobert; whereof it was subsequently held by knight's service by the Basing's, a family of great account in

London, in the time of Kings John and Henry III. for the high offices they bore in that city. Sir Thomas de Basing, having succeeded to this manor, alienated the property to Adam Sare, by whose heirs it was held in the 20th of Edward III. It does not appear how it subsequently passed, until the commencement of the reign of Henry VI. when it went to the Clive's or Cliffe's, a family of note in Shropshire and Essex; from which, at the end of that reign, it devolved by sale to William Hextal, esq. of East Peckham. Margaret, one of his daughters, by marriage, conveyed this property to William Whetenhall, esq. alderman of London; whose descendant, also named William, in the middle of the reign of Henry VIII. sold it to John Boys, esq. of Fredville, in whose line it remained to Major John Boys, who held it in 1656. The latter, previous to his death, alienated this manor, but it is not ascertained to whom, so that we only know, for a certainty, that it went to the Woodroofe's; and, in 1720, William of that name, of Cambridgeshire, sold *one moiety* to John Walker, of London, who passed the property away to Francis Cabot; and he, on his decease, in 1753, devised this estate to Barbara, his widow, as she did to her father, Mr. Robert Cooper, of Salisbury, and her brother-in-law, William Barnes. In 1786, this moiety was in the possession of Robert, son of the before-mentioned Robert Cooper, and of Anne Barnes, who joined in the sale to Mr. Michael Becker, of Dover; and he, in 1792, sold the property to Mr. Philip Leman, of Dover castle.

The *other moiety* continued in the descendants of William Woodroofe, above mentioned, down to the Rev. Mr. Woodroofe, of Shoreham, in this county; so that the manor continued in undivided moities.

There is no court held for this manor, whereto is annexed a right to wrecks of the sea, along the shore, from High cliff to Archcliff fort.

Siberton, otherwise Siberston, is a manor in the north-east part of this parish, which constituted part of the barony of Fobert, of which it was possessed by knight's service. This estate was held by John de Herste, in the 2d of King John; and, in the 20th of Edward III. the heirs of another of that name held it by the description of lands in Siberston, of the barony of Chilham, by the same service, and the payment of

ward to Dover castle. Soon after the above period, it was held by a family which thence took its name; one of whom, Richard de Sibertson, demised it to John Monins; in which line it remained to Edward Monins, esq. of Waldershare, whose lands were *disgavelled* under Edward VI. By Edward, this manor was devised to his second son, George Monins, who sold the estate to Thomas Pepper, jurat of Dover; and he, dying the 17th of Elizabeth, gave it to Thomas, son of Richard Pepper; who, under James I. alienated the property to Moulton, of Redriff; in which name it continued until 1660, and was then alienated to Mr. Phineas Stringer, of Dover; after which, it devolved to his son. This manor, says Hasted, *by unity of possession*, has for some years been so blended with that of Hougham, otherwise the Elmes, before described, that it was accounted, when he wrote, one and the same manor.

The Tithes *of Sibertson*, situated in Elmes Bottom, in this parish, were part of the possessions of the priory of St. Martin, in Dover, and so remained till the dissolution, when this portion of tithes, &c. was granted to the archiepiscopal see of Canterbury, in exchange, as frequently before mentioned, and has so remained until the present time.

Farthingloe, otherwise Venson Dane, is another manor in this parish, anciently belonging to the canons of St. Martin's, being so entered in Domesday record.

As the canons held other possessions here, in that survey the description is no doubt included of their estate of *Venson Dane*, otherwise *Wellclose*, which, with Farthingloe, continued vested in the priory until the dissolution, when they were granted by the crown to the archbishop of Canterbury, who still holds the same. This estate is exempted from the great or corn tithes. There is no court held for this manor.

The estate of Farthingloe was possessed of the canons under Henry III. by a family which thence derived its surname; one of whom, Matilda de Farthingloe, is mentioned by Prynne, *anno* 44 of the above monarch.

Maxton, or *Maxton court*, is another manor in this district, contiguous to Farthingloe, which, under Henry III. was held by Stephen Manekyn, who had it by knight's service of the barony

of Fobert, given for the defence of Dover castle. It was then divided into moieties, and held by Richard Walsham, and Alice, daughter of Stephen Manekin, by whom it was alienated to William, son of Nicholas Archer, of Dover. In the 21st of Richard II. William, son of the above, passed the estate to John Alkham, of Alkham, in whose descendants it continued a length of time; but, at the close of Edward the IV.'s reign, was vested in Roger Appleton, from whom it passed to the Hobday's, and thence to the Harman's, of Crayford. This manor was next in possession of James Hales, who passed it to the Andrews', of Dover, and by them it was sold to the Pepper's, who, under James I. conveyed the estate to Sir Thomas Wilford, of Ilden. Under Charles I. it went to the Richards's, of Dover, whose descendant, of the same name, devised it to his nephew, John Sladden, merchant, of the same place, who equally willed it to his sister Mary, when the latter in marriage conveyed it to Mr. Thomas Fogge, of Dover. In 1783, the property was sold to Thomas Biggs, esq. of the above town, who greatly improved the mansion, by the addition of several buildings. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Hougham is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Dover. The church, dedicated to St Lawrence, is ancient, but small, comprising two aisles and a chancel, having neither tower nor steeple. In this edifice are interred several of the Hougham's, Malmaine's, Fyneux's, Nepeau's, and other families of note in this country; but the inscriptions on the brass plates are now illegible, and, in most instances, the memorials themselves have been carried away.

This church belonged to St. Martin's Priory, having been so appropriated by Archbishop Stratford, in 1345, and a vicarage endowed therein, which, with the site of the priory, &c. at the dissolution devolved to the crown. By Henry VIII. it was then exchanged for other property with the Archbishop of Canterbury, under a reservation of an ancient pension of 40s. payable by the prior to the vicar. It still continues vested in the archiepiscopal see, his grace being now possessed of the appropriation of this church, with the advowson of the vicarage. The parsonage is called *Little Hougham Court*, and the glebe land comprises ninety acres.

In 1588 there were 120 communicants, and the annual value was £40. This vicarage, in the king's books, is estimated at £6 13 4. Archbishop Juxon, in the 14th of Charles II. increased the vicarage by £25, payable by the lessee of the great tythes. It is now a discharged living of the yearly value of £46, the vicar still receiving the pension of 40s. from the archbishop.

In 1821, the number of houses in this parish was fifty-eight; and, at the same period, from the census of the population then taken, being the last, the numbers were, males 240, females 180, making a total of 420 souls.

Buckland is the next parish, situated north-west from Hougham, written in Domesday *Bocheland*, a name derived from the Saxon words *boc* or *book*, and *land*, meaning to imply that it was land held by charter, free and hereditary, and passing by livery and seizin. It is generally called Buckland near Dover, in order to distinguish it from Buckland near Faversham. A borsholder is chosen fo. this parish at the court-leet of the manor of Dover Priory.

This Parish occupies the spacious vale, continuing to the land's end at Dover, to which the high road conducts through the same. On either side, the precipices rise stupendous and truly romantic, to a barren country, which, to the left comprises open downs, and on the right presents enclosures of arable land, with rough ground and coppice wood; the soil, consisting of a hard dry chalk, the rest being red earth, abounding in flints; the district is poor, yielding little to the occupant, and is dangerous for the traveller. The bottom of the vale, however, differs from the above description, as the lands and meadows there are fertile, producing good corn and excellent pasturage. In the valley to the south is *Combe farm*, and northward the manor of *Barton*. The village of Buckland is mostly built north of the London road, and now extends to the town of Dover. It is a very straggling place, unpleasantly situated, the river Dour running close to the southern side, over which stretches a brick bridge; the current of the stream, at this place, turns two corn, and the same number of paper, mills.

When the late Emperor Alexander, of Russia, visited this country, after the ratification of a general peace, he passed through Buckland; on which occasion, from the uniform appear-

ance of neatness, comfort, and cleanliness, even among the humblest of its inhabitants, that monarch was led to form the highest opinion of the advanced state of civilization and happiness to which the population of England had attained.

The fair, which used to be held at Buckland on the 24th of August, being St. Bartholomew's day, is, from the change of style, now deferred till the 4th of September.

The Manor of Buckland, on the taking of Domesday record, constituted part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Bayeux, being so entered in that survey. After the disgrace of that dignitary, this manor was granted to Hamo de Crevequer, from which family it went to the Willoughby's, and from them to the Barrie's of Sevington; Agnes, wife of William Barrie, dying in the 48th of Edward III. possessed of this estate, being held of the king by the service of paying one red rose yearly, John Alkham being her kinsman and heir. It then passed to the Callard's or Calward's, commonly called Collard, who held this manor for several descents. It was next alienated, under Queen Elizabeth, to the Fogge's, by whom it was sold to William Sherman, esq. of Croydon, who held it in 1656. By the heirs of the latter it was passed to Edward Wivell, of Dover, whose daughter, in marriage, conveyed the property to Captain James Gunman, of the above town, and by him it was devised to Christopher Gunman, esq. whose son, James, possessed it at his death. No court is held for this manor.

The Manors of Dudmancombe and Barton, the former vulgarly called *Deadmanscombe*, and the court-lodge of the same, *Combe farm*, together with the latter, both belonged to St. Martin's Priory at Dover, and are so entered in the record of Domesday. In this state they remained until the dissolution, when Henry VIII. shortly after granted them both, with the site of the priory, &c. in exchange to the archbishop of Canterbury, in whose possession they now continue. A court-baron is held for the manor of Dudsmanscombe.

In this Parish was an Hospital for leprous persons, founded about the year 1141, upon the solicitation of Osberne and Godwin, two monks of St. Martin's. It was dedicated to *St. Bartholomew*, and intended to consist of ten brethren and ten sisters; but, the revenues being inadequate, they were reduced

to eight of either sex. This establishment was dissolved on the suppression of hospitals and chantries, at the beginning of the reign of Edward VI. who granted the site and revenues to Sir Henry Palmer, to hold *in capite*. No traces remain of this edifice, or the chapel that appertained to the same. It appears by the copy of a certificate, that John Bowle, the lessee, in Queen Mary's reign, took down this hospital and chapel for the materials, without having had any legal permission for so doing.

Buckland is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Dover. The church, which is exempt from the archdeacon, is dedicated to St. Andrew, being a small edifice, containing two aisles and a chancel, with a small chapel to the south, and a low pointed tower at the west end. In this structure are several memorials of the Bentley's, as well as one to Lady Louisa, wife of Charles Ventris Field, esq.

Buckland church, from Domesday record, belonged to the priory of Dover, and was appropriated afterwards by Archbishop Islip, in 1364. It so remained till the dissolution, when it was granted by the crown to the see of Canterbury in exchange, as so frequently before observed, subject to the payment of £4 yearly to the vicar. It has since continued vested in the archbishop, with the appropriation and advowson of the vicarage.

In 1588, there were 120 communicants, and the annual value was £70; the church, being esteemed a chapel, is not entered in the king's books.

Archbishop Juxon, in the 13th of Charles II. augmented this curacy by £12 a year, payable out of the great tithes; the clear annual value is now £26. There was a portion of tithes at a place in this parish, called Offerton, otherwise Ankerton Dane, which, in the 37th of Elizabeth, was in the hands of the crown.

In 1821, the number of houses in this parish was 131; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 340, females 353, making a total of 693 souls.

Charlton parish lies next to Buckland, eastward, written in Domesday *Carlentone*, and now styled Charlton by Dover, to distinguish it from Charlton near Greenwich. This parish is partly in the hundred of Bewsborough, where the church stands,

and the remainder in Charlton ward, within the jurisdiction of the Cinque Ports, and the Corporation of the town and port of Dover.

The borsholder, chosen at the manor of Dudmanscombe, in Buckland, possesses jurisdiction over that part of this parish, within the boundaries of the hundred of Bewsborough.

CHARLTON stands in the same vale as Buckland, but presents a much more pleasing and cheerful aspect. The village and church, about two fields to the left of the high London road, though formerly separated from Dover, form a continued range of buildings, nearly two miles in extent, joining the last mentioned town. It reaches southward on the other side, and joins Hougham, up the Blackhorse valley, in like manner as it does Guston, to the north.

The river Dour, formerly described, runs through Charlton, eastward, its current putting several mills in motion. Above the village, pleasantly situated on level meadow land, the hills rise very high to the north. In the vale beyond, extending further northward from Dover castle, is a deep space, called Knight's bottom, which was used in ancient times by the knights belonging to the castle, for exercises of feats of chivalry. From the situation of this spot, and the description given in ancient writers, there is every reason to believe that the vicinity constituted the *Portus Dubris* of the Romans; a conjecture strongly corroborated by the remains of anchors and planks of vessels that have been dug up near this spot at various periods.

NO MANOR now exists particularly distinguished by the name of *Charlton*, the manor of Dover priory claiming over the major part of the same, without the jurisdiction of the Cinque Ports. However, that such a manor did formerly exist, cannot be doubted, since it appears that the MANOR OF CHARLTON, when Domesday record was taken, constituted part of the possessions of St. Martin's priory, being so entered in that famous survey.

This manor, &c. continued vested in the priory until the dissolution, when they were granted by Henry VIII., in exchange, to the see of Canterbury. The district, however, has long forfeited the reputation of having once constituted a manor, and that of Dudmanscombe, the site of which is in the adjoining parish of Buckland, claims over part of this parish and the waste therein.

The Hospital of St. Mary, or *Maison Dieu*, in Dover, adjoining the southern bounds of this parish, possessed much lands in the same, which, at the suppression, fell to the crown; and so continued until the reign of Charles I. when they consisted of 351 acres, of the improved rental of £156 *per annum*. The whole had, however, been long enjoyed by the lieutenant of Dover castle, at the yearly rent of £12 10 8; independent of which, the hospital possessed other lands in this parish, as previously mentioned, when speaking of the hospital in Dover. There are no *parochial charities* in this district.

CHARLTON is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Dover. The church, esteemed a rectory, dedicated to Sts. Peter and Paul, is an insignificant structure, containing a body, a high chancel, with a smaller one on the south side, and a low pointed steeple at the west end. In this structure are mementos of the Monins', of Dover, and other families established in these parts. This edifice, which, many years back, had been reduced from its original size, was, in 1827, reconstructed and much enlarged.

The rectory of this church was formerly accounted *a manor*, and appendage to the barony of Chilham, having, in early times, had the same possessors. Under Edward II. the great Bartholomew de Badlesmere, of Leeds Castle, having a grant of the above barony, possessed this church; and, in the 13th of the above reign, having a royal licence to found a house of canons regular at Badlesmere, he settled this church as part of its endowment. On the attainder of that powerful baron, nothing further was executed, and the whole project was abandoned. The church was afterwards restored to his son, Giles de Badlesmere, with his father's other vast possessions; on whose death, it descended to his eldest sister, Maude, who entitled her husband, John de Vere, earl of Oxford, to the same. It does not appear how long this church remained in that line, but, by the escheat rolls, we find that Ralph, baron of Graystock, died possessed of this estate in the 6th of Henry V. as well as Elizabeth, wife of Ralph Boteler, of Sudely, in the 2d of Edward IV.; from which period, until the reign of Henry VIII. we find no further records respecting this property. At the close of the above reign, John Monins, esq. lieutenant of Dover castle, possessed this manor, and died in 1554. In the above line it remained down to John Monins,

of Woodford, in Essex, afterwards of Canterbury, the only heir male of that venerable family, who espoused Sarah, daughter of Mr. John Trice, of Ashford, by whom he had a numerous progeny.

This church is not valued in the king's books ; in 1578 it was estimated at £15, and in 1640 at £30, the number of communicants being twenty-four. It is now a discharged living, of the clear yearly rental of £32. The rector of Charlton has only part of the great tithes, the remainder belonging to the archbishop, who demises the same on a beneficial lease.

In the year 1821 the dwellings in one part of Charlton parish were 104, and in the other 12. At the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the inhabitants were, for one part, males 362, and for the other, 29; females 365, and for the other part, 35 ; making a total of 791 souls. The largest part of Charlton, in the above return, is distinguished as being in the Cinque Ports and liberty of Dover.

THE HUNDRED OF FOLKESTONE.

This district lies south-east from the hundred of Loningborough, and is written in Domesday *Fulchestan*, and in other deeds and records uniformly *Folkestone*, though of later years it has frequently been spelt *Folkstone*.

This Hundred contains within its boundaries the following Parishes: Swingfield, part of Liddon, Alkham, Capell, Hawking, Cheriton, and Newington, part of the parishes of Acrise, Hougham, and Folkestone; *the town and liberty of Folkestone*, comprehending its church and part of that parish, having long since been constituted *a separate jurisdiction*, claiming peace officers of its own. Over this hundred *two constables* have jurisdiction.

This hundred, which ranked appurtenant to the lordship and manor of Folkestone, was, under the Conqueror, part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Bayeux, so frequently mentioned; on whose disgrace, this district passed in the same succession of ownership as the manors of Folkestone and Tirlingham, as will appear hereafter in the descriptions of the same.

Swingfield, in ancient deeds *Swynefelde* and *Swinfield*, lies to the east of Acrise. This parish is in a very lonely and unfrequented part of the country, upon lofty ground, having its church in a north-easterly direction, and the village contiguous. East of the Minnis is *Foxhole* and *Smersole*, formerly possessed by a family of that name; after which, it belonged to the Simmons's; then to the Rigden's, of Wingham; and afterwards to the Rev. Edward Timewell Brydges, of Wotton. At the western extremity of the minnis, or common, is the hamlet of Selsted: coppice woods abound in the neighbourhood, the largest being in the north and southern extremities; the former of which, called Swingfield park, comprises 185 acres. This property anciently belonged to the Strangford family, and afterwards to the famous patriot, Algernon Sidney; who mortgaged the park to one of the family of Rushout, the same being now held under

that incumbrance, in consequence of Algernon Sidney suffering a foreclosure. The soil here is preferable to that on the hills, particularly adjoining St. John's, where the flints are less abundant, and the fields level, spacious, and open. West of this part of the parish, is Swingfield Minnis, the greater portion comprised within its bounds, and the residue in Acrise and Eleham. The common is two miles and a half long, and nearly half a mile broad, containing 550 acres. This property was always supposed to be vested in the crown; wherefore, after the decapitation of Charles I. it was sold by the government for public use, being then esteemed of the yearly value of £216. Colonel Dixwell, however, owner of the barony and hundred of Folkestone, claimed this property, &c. as lord paramount, alleging, that the right had been enjoyed by his progenitors for many generations. This right was in like manner subsequently demanded by the earl of Radnor, owner of the barony, &c. In 1745, 4000 of the noblemen, gentry, &c. of these districts assembled on this heath in arms, to oppose any invasion that might be attempted on this part of the Kentish coast, such an attack being then greatly apprehended.

THIS PARISH was part of the lands that constituted the barony of Averenches, or Folkestone, as it was afterwards called. *The Manors of Folkestone and Tirlingham* claim *paramount* over it; *subordinate* to which are THE MANORS OF NORTH, or HALL COURT and BOYNTON, or BONNINGTON, being *the two moieties*, whereof *Swingfield* once consisted; the former, from records, appears to have been possessed by the Swynefeld's, and the latter by the Bonnington's, both held by the performance of ward to Dover castle.

John de Criol, youngest son of Bertram, in the 48th of Henry III. died possessing Boynton manor, whose descendant, Nicholas, in the 3d of Richard II. gave it to John Fineaux, esq. for having saved his life at the battle of Poictiers: he was, apparently, possessed of North Court, as well as Boynton; but, whether the former came with the above by gift or descent, does not appear. In the line of Fineaux they remained to John Fineaux, of Herne; by marriage this estate then passed to Sir John Smyth, of Westenhanger; whose grandson, Philip, viscount Strangford, conveyed it to trustees for the payment of his debts; who, at the close of the reign of Charles II. passed

the property to William Gomeldon, esq. of Sellindge; whose son, Richard, in the 10th of Anne, obtained an act for selling Northcourt and Boynton, for the discharge of his incumbrances, when the estate was passed to Sir Henry Furnese, bart. Catherine, countess of Guildford, granddaughter of Sir Henry, dying in 1767, devised it to her husband, Francis; whose grandson, the Right Hon. George Augustus, earl of Guildford, afterwards acquired this property.

St. John's was formerly a *Preceptory*, annexed to the order of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, to whom it belonged in the reign of Henry II. The Preceptory was a mansion, wherein some brothers resided to superintend the estates in the neighbourhood belonging to that community. At the dissolution, this dwelling, &c. falling to the crown, was valued at £87 3 3½ clear, and £111 12 8 total yearly revenue. It was granted by Henry VIII. to Sir Anthony Aucher, of Otterden, with the rectory of Swynfield, to hold *in capite* by knight's service; who, in the 5th of Edward VI. passed this property to Sir Henry Palmer, of Wingham; in whose line it remained down to Sir Thomas Palmer, bart. who, dying in 1723, bequeathed it to his natural son, Herbert Palmer, esq.; on whose demise, in 1760, it went first to trustees, for payment of his debts, and then to his sister, Mrs. Frances Palmer, in tail. The trustees named, having refused to act, it was decreed by the Court of Chancery, that the estate should be sold for the purposes intended by the testator, for ninety-nine years, to commence from his death. This took place in 1777, when the Rev. Dr. Thomas Hey, of Wickhambreux, was purchaser, who became entitled to the fee by the will of Mrs. Frances Palmer, above named, who, suffering a recovery and barring the entails, devised the same to him at her death, in 1770. By Dr. Hey, the estate was disposed of, in 1792, to Samuel Egerton Brydges, esq. of Denton.

The remains of the ancient Preceptory are now converted into a farm-house, particularly the east end, which is lofty, containing three narrow lancet windows, with pointed arches, and above, three circular casements. This seems to have constituted part of the chapel, which no doubt adjoined the mansion.

Richard de Swinfield, s.t.p. a native of this parish, was bishop of Hereford, who died in 1316, and was buried in his

own cathedral. He gave all the posts in his church to men of Kent, two of whom also bore the name of this parish.

SWINGFIELD is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Dover. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, contains an aisle and a chancel, having a square tower, with a beacon turret at the west end. In the chancel are various memorials of the Pilcher's, tenants of St. John's; and in the aisle are tombs of the Simmons's of Smersall. Weever mentions an ancient monument of an armed knight, and another represented in the stained glass of one of the windows, with the date 1478, of which no traces now remain.

The rectory was early appropriated to St. John's hospital, and so continued until the dissolution, when it was granted by Henry VIII. with the preceptory, to Sir Anthony Aucher, who sold it to the Palmer's, in which line it remained to Sir Thomas Palmer, bart. at whose demise, in 1725, it went, as before mentioned, to the Rev. Dr. Thomas Hey, of Wickham, who sold it, with St. John's and the rectory, as previously observed, to Mr. Brydges, of Denton.

This church is a perpetual curacy, of the certified yearly value of £20, which are paid by the owner of the rectory, who has the nomination of the curate. In 1640 the communicants amounted to 127. In 1821, there were forty-seven houses in this parish; and, according to the last census of the population, then taken by order of parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 178, females 126; making a total of 304 souls.

LIDDON is the next parish eastward, anciently spelt *Leddene;* it lays partly in the hundred of Bewsborough and lath of St. Augustine; the residue, wherein is the church and village, being in the hundred of Folkstone and lath of Shipway.

The parish lies in an unpleasant dreary country, the whole having a poor appearance, and the soil, which is chalky, being unproductive. The village stands in the valley, on either side of the high road leading from Canterbury to Dover, having the church and court-lodge at a small distance northward. The hills on all sides are bold and elevated, and, towards the north, open and uninclosed. It does not extend far in that direction, but southwards reaches upwards of a mile from the village, beyond Swanton house, which is a large ancient stone building,

in the direction of Swingfield and Alkham. Contiguous are several woods, which belonged formerly to Lord Bolingbroke, by whom they were sold to the Rev. Edward Timewell Brydges, of Wotton. No fair is held at this place.

The Lordship of the Barony *of Folkestone* claims *paramount* over the part of this parish situated in that hundred, *subordinate* to which is Liddon Manor, the court-lodge of which stands near the church. It formerly belonged to the abbey of West Langdon, and after the dissolution was granted by Henry VIII. with the rectory, to the primate of Canterbury, in whom it is still vested.

The Manor of Cocklescombe, lying in the hundred of Bewsborough, was anciently held of Dover castle, by knight's service, being part of the lands constituting the barony of Maminot, afterwards from other possessors called Saye. Under Edward I. Ralph de Cestreton held it, and was succeeded by Stephen de Bocton, soon after which it went to the knights of St. John of Jerusalem. It so continued until the dissolution, when it was sold by Henry VIII. to Edward Monins, of Waldershare, who, under Edward VI. procured his lands to be *disgavelled,* when, dying, the estate fell to Sir William Monins, created a baronet in 1611. Sir Edward, son of the latter, died possessing this property in 1663, leaving Elizabeth, his widow, surviving, who held the estate in jointure at her demise, which occurred A. D. 1703. It then went to the heirs of Susan, his eldest daughter, wife of the Hon. Peregrine Bertie, and they, under William and Mary, sold it to Sir Henry Furnese, bart. of Waldershare, whose grandson of the same name dying in 1735, under age and unmarried, this manor, among his other estates, fell to his three sisters, and coheirs of their father, in equal shares in coparcenary. Under George II. on a writ of partition, this property fell to Anne, the eldest daughter, wife of John Viscount St. John, whose son Frederick became Viscount Bolingbroke, when his son George sold it to Mr. Baldock, of Canterbury; and, in 1791, the last mentioned possessor passed this estate to Mr. Peter Harnett. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Swanton is a manor in the south-west part of this parish, within the hundred of Folkestone, adjoining Swingfield, in which direction it lies. This manor, on the taking of Domesday record, was, for the most part, held by the bishop of Bayeux,

being entered as such. It afterwards fell to a family who took the name of this estate, as it was possessed by William de Swanetune, under Henry III. By a female heir of that line it was conveyed in marriage to one Lutteridge, whose daughter espousing John Greenford, he became entitled to this manor. The latter dying in the 11th of Edward IV. Alice, his daughter, carried it in marriage to Robert Monins, whose son, John, resided at Swanton. The estate continued in the last-mentioned family until 1663, when it passed to George Lord Viscount Bolinbroke, who sold it to Messrs. Nutt and Walker, and they, in 1792, conveyed it to Samuel Egerton Brydges, esq. of Denton.

Swanton manor, with that of Penryn, in this parish, the exact situation of which is now unknown, are held by knight's service of the manor of Folkestone.

The Master and Fellows of Emanuel College possess lands in this parish, as well as Ewell, the same having been given by Walter Richards, in 1627, towards the maintenance of two exhibitions, the produce of which is now applied to those purposes.

Liddon is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury, and *deanery* of Dover. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, contains an aisle and a chancel, with a square tower at the west end. There is no object worthy of notice in this structure.

William de Auberville, on founding the priory of West Langdon, in 1192, gave to that institution this church of St. Mary of Ledene, in perpetual alms, the same having been confirmed by Simon de Albrincis, and Sir Simon de Criol, great grandson of the former. Archbishop Walter subsequently granted a licence for the canons to serve, and, in consequence, no vicarage was endowed therein, all the profits being applied by that fraternity to their own use. It thus continued until the dissolution, after which Henry VIII. granted it in exchange to the see of Canterbury, in which state it now remains, his grace being entitled to the rectory, with the manor of Liddon annexed thereto. In the grant, however, the archbishop was made subject to the payment of £3 11 8, to the curate of Liddon, whence it appears that it was then considered as a curacy. In the king's books it only stands as a vicarage, of the annual value of £6 6 2; it is now a discharged living of the certified value of £32. In 1588

it was valued at no more than £10, when the number of communicants was fifty-two, and in 1640 the communicants were the same.

In the 15th of Charles II. Archbishop Juxon augmented this vicarage by £18 per annum, payable by the lessee of the parsonage; and Archbishop Tenison, by will, in 1714, left for its augmentation £200, the same amount being added by the governors of Queen Anne's bounty.

In the last census of the population, taken by order of parliament, in 1821, the parish of Liddon is not enumerated.

Alkham is the next parish south-eastward from Liddon, situated three miles west of Dover, and two from the London road, on the right. It lies among the hills, being little known and unfrequented, the situation elevated and bold, containing open and unenclosed grounds, which, together with the intervening valleys, are divested of trees or hedges, coppice woods, however, standing here and there, the whole presenting a romantic appearance. The village of Alkham, and its church, are situated on a small knoll, at the bottom of the valley, in the centre of the parish. Half a mile distant is the hamlet of South Alkham, once esteemed a manor, having had owners called after it. The same distance northward is Woolverton, and farther on Chilton, both having for many years been the property of the Woollet's, of Eastry. The latter, in 1683, was in possession of Simon Yorke, of Dover, merchant, who died the same year, being father of the Lord Chancellor Hardwick, and of an older son, Henry, to whom he gave Chilton, which was afterwards held by his descendant, Philip York, esq. of Denbighshire. At the south-west boundary of this parish is Evering, with a small street so named, and to the south-east the hamlet of Drelingore, at which place the spring of the Nailbourn issues, sometimes flowing north to the head of the Dour, that rises at Chilton, a mile and a half distant, thence running till it encounters the other branch of that river, below Castney Court, in River. The soil is chalky, and the land in general poor and unproductive.

The Lordship *of the barony of Folkestone* claims *paramount* over this parish, subordinate to which, is The Manor of Alkham, otherwise Malmaines Alkham, part of the lands constituting the barony of Averenches, whereof it was held as

one knight's fee, as of Dover castle, by performance of ward-ship by the Malmaines', of Waldershare. The last possessor of that line, under Edward II. was Lora, widow of John de Malmaines, who remarrying Roger de Tilmanstone, he held this manor in her right. It then passed to a family that assumed the name of Alkham, one of whom, John, descended from Peter de Alkham, who had held lands here as early as Henry III. and possessed this property under Henry IV. he being charged for it towards the subsidy for the marriage of Blanche, the king's daughter, whence several lands in this county were subsequently called Blanche. In the Alkham's, the manor of Malmains continued till the reign of Henry VII. when Peter passed it to the Warren's; from which name, under Henry VIII. it went to Sir Matthew Brown, of Beechworth castle, whose descendant, of the same name, sold it, under Elizabeth, to the Lushington's. By the latter the estate was conveyed to the Broome's; when, in the 22d of James I. Robert Broome, S.T.B. of Ringwold, alienated the property to the Browne's, of Alkham; and, in 1656, one of that family disposed of the estate to Alban Spencer, esq. of Walmer castle. A descendant of the same name subsequently leaving three daughters, the estate was divided among them; when, by marriage, this property was conveyed to the Halford's, the Buck's, and the Ayerst's. A court-baron is held for this manor, as of the manor of Folkestone, by knight's service, and ought to have enclosed fifteen perches of Folkestone park: it pays a rent to the ward of Dover castle

There is an estate, called *Malmains Farm*, in this parish, which probably at one period belonged to this manor.

HALMEDE, or HALL COURT, is a small manor, mentioned in old records as having been the site of the last-described manor of Malmaines; Halmede being apparently a corruption from Halimote. It certainly had the same owners from the earliest times until Elizabeth's reign, when it was possessed by Sir Matthew Browne, before mentioned, who passed it to Daniel Wollet, who held lands in Elcham. By his son, Ingram, it was alienated to John Browne, of Alkham; whose son, about 1656, conveyed the property to Alban Spencer, esq. It then passed equally with the manor of Malmaines to Mr. Smith, James Ayerst, and the Rev. Robert G. Ayerst, who held it in undivided third shares.

HOPTONS is a manor in this parish, anciently held of the barony of Folkestone, by knight's service and ward of Dover castle; for we find under Edward III. that the abbot of St. Radigund's and Peter de Hall so possessed this property. How it subsequently passed does not appear, but it went to the Baker's, of Coldham; the last of whom, John, was gentleman porter of Calais under Henry V. and VI. He left five daughters, when Joane conveyed it in marriage to Robert Brandred; whose son, Robert, passed it to Sir Thomas Browne, of Beechworth castle, treasurer of the household of Henry VI. whose great grandson had his lands *disgavelled* under Elizabeth. His son, Sir Matthew, at the close of that queen's reign, alienated the estate to the Godman's, of London; whence, under Charles I. it was sold to John Elred, esq. one of whose descendants, in the time of Charles II. passed it to John Michel, esq.; and from him, under Queen Anne, it devolved to Jacob Desbouverie, esq. From the latter this property was immediately alienated to Henry Barton, gent. of Folkestone, who died in 1730, leaving two daughters, when it passed in marriage to the Rev. Thomas Barton; after which, it went by sale to the late Peter Fector, esq. in 1767. A court-baron is held for this manor. In this parish flourished the Hopton's; Walter of that name, in 1477, having been a witness to the charter granted by Edward IV. to the Cinque Ports; Michael was a benefactor to Alkham church; and William Hopton, the pope's notary in this parish.

EVERING, called *Everden*, is a manor in the western part of this parish, held of the barony of Averenches, by knight's service, &c. of that family of Averenches, or Avereng, as the name was pronounced in French, ancient lords of that barony. In the family of Evering, from the reign of Henry II. this estate continued in an uninterrupted succession, till James II. when John of that name, in 1688, alienated the property to Benjamin Timewell, gent. of Chatham; who, in 1698, passed it to Elizabeth, widow of Peter Peters, M.D. whose only daughter, Elizabeth, conveyed it in marriage to Thomas Barret, esq. of Lee. He dying in 1757, it went to his only daughter, also named Elizabeth, who, in marriage, vested the estate in the Rev. W. Dejovas Byrche, of Canterbury; whose only daughter, Elizabeth, marrying Samuel Egerton Brydges,

esq. of Denton, he became entitled to this manor. A court-baron is held for this manor, which formerly, as before remarked, enclosed forty-six perches of Folkestone park.

HALTON and WOOLVERTON are two small manors in this parish, the former anciently held of the prior of Christ church, by a family of that name, as early as the reign of Stephen. It does not appear how long the abbot retained his interest herein, but it afterwards passed to the Poyning's, and so continued till the time of Henry VIII. when Sir Edward Poynings, lord warden, &c. and K.G. gave it in dower with Mary, his natural child, to Thomas Fynes, lord Clinton and Saye. By her son, Edward, under Philip and Mary, this property was conveyed to Mr. Henry Herdson; in which line it remained down to the Rt. Hon. Jacob Pleydell Bouverie, earl of Radnor. Courts-baron are held for both these manors.

There are *no charitable benefactions;* a *charity school* is kept in the church for teaching reading, writing, and arithmetic. The poor constantly relieved are about twenty, and casually ten.

ALKHAM is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Dover. The church, dedicated to St. Anthony the Martyr, is a handsome structure, containing three aisles and two chancels, with a tower steeple, surmounted by a low pointed turret. In the chancel are memorials of the Slaters; and against the wall, on the south side, an ancient tomb of Bethersden marble. This church, and the chapel of Mauregge, or Capell, was given by Hamo de Crevequer to the abbot of St. Radigund, to hold in perpetual alms. It was appropriated, in the 43d of Henry III. anno 1258, and under Richard II. valued among the temporalities of the abbey at £14. In that state it remained till the dissolution, when the whole was granted by Henry VIII. to Archbishop Cranmer, in exchange, by whom it was subsequently re-exchanged with the crown; the churches and advowsons of vicarages being however excepted. Since that period it has remained vested in the see of Canterbury, his grace being now entitled to the same.

The vicarage of Alkham and Chapel of Ferne, is valued in the king's books at £11, and the yearly tenths at £1 2 *per annum.* It is now of the certified value of £53 9 6. In 1580, the communicants were eighty; and in 1640, its value was £60. The vicar is inducted into the vicarage of Alkham, with

the chapel of Capell le Ferne, otherwise St. Mary le Menge, annexed thereto. Three acres of glebe land appertain to this vicarage.

The great tithes of Evering ward, in this parish, are Swingfield ward, and part of the parsonage of Alkham, the whole being held of the archbishop for three lives, at a rental of £1 6 8, and the parsonage for twenty-one years, at an annual rent of £12.

In the year 1821, the number of dwellings in this parish was eighty-three; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 264, females 245, making a total of 509 souls.

Capell parish lies south-east from Alkham, within the hundred of Folkestone, its name being derived from a chapel, *Capella,* to the church of Alkham. It is also called *Capell le Ferne*, and *Capell by Folkestone,* to distinguish it from another parish of the same name near Tunbridge.

Capell is situated on the hills between Dover and Folkstone, being, however, less subject to those places than the parishes previously alluded to, particularly as regards the church occupying the centre, where the adjoining fields are more level than is usual in this part of the country, the lands being also fertile, and the rents consequently higher. Not far from the church, to the south-west, is an estate called *Capell sole farm,* from an adjoining large sheet of water; there is no regular village, the houses being scattered. The road from Dover to Folkestone winds over the lofty chalk cliffs, along the south part of this parish, the lands consisting of open unenclosed downs, bounded by the cliffs on the seashore. This district is part of the possessions of the archiepiscopal see of Canterbury, being within the liberty of Folkestone. No fair is held in this parish.

The Manor of Capell, also denominated the *Manor of St. Mary le Merge,* anciently constituted part of the possessions of Nigell de Muneville, whose descendant, William, leaving one daughter, carried the estate in marriage to William de Albrincis; whose son of that name also leaving an only daughter, Matilda, she entitled her husband, Hamo de Crevequer, to the same. The latter leaving four daughters, on the partition of the property, Elene carried this manor in marriage to Bertram de Criol,

who died possessing the same in the 23d of Edward I. Bertram dying, left two sons, John and Bertram, who also died, when the property devolved to their sister, Joane, who carried this manor in marriage to Sir Richard de Rokesle; whose eldest daughter, Agnes, entitled her husband, Thomas de Poynings, to this estate. In this line the property remained to Sir Edward Poynings, of Westenhanger, governor of Dover castle, and lord warden, in the 12th of Henry VIII. who gave this property in marriage with Mary, a natural daughter, to Thomas Fynes, lord Clinton and Saye, to whom this manor was confirmed. Edward, son of the latter nobleman, in the reign of Mary, passed the estate away to Mr. Henry Herdson; after which, it continued with Folkestone and his other estates, until the death of Sir Basill Dixwell, bart. of Brome, about the close of the reign of Charles II. Shortly after, Oliver Wright, and others, being authorised by the Court of Chancery, in 1691, conveyed this manor to William Young, who pulled down the ancient mansion standing on this estate, and erected the present court lodge. At his demise, the estate fell to his son, Nicholas Young; who, dying unmarried, it passed to his sister, Elizabeth, on whose death it devolved to her son, Young Veal; who, by recovery, in 1744, barred the future remainders. After his death, in 1753, it was sold to William Minet, esq. of London, who died possessing this manor in 1767, which he left, with Church and Capell sole farms, to his nephew, Hughes Minet, esq. of London. This manor is subject to a castle-guard rent to Dover castle.

Caldham, usually named *Coldham*, from its exposed situation, is a manor in the south-east part of this parish, which was anciently the patrimony of a family bearing the same name. Prior to the time of Richard II. it passed away to the Bakers, in which line it continued to John Baker, of Caldham, porter of Calais under Henry V. and VI., who, dying without male issue, and leaving five daughters, this estate went with Joane to Robert Brandred, whose son, of that name, at the close of the reign of Henry VI., passed the property to Sir Thomas Browne, of Beechworth Castle. His descendant Sir Anthony, in the 33d of Henry VIII., exchanged it with that monarch, by whom it was granted to William Wilsford, and others, of London, to hold *in capite:* and they alienated the estate to John Tufton, esq. of Hothfield, whose grandson, Sir Nicholas, bart. was by

Charles I. created Baron Tufton and earl of Thanet, in which line it has continued.

Sotmere is a manor in the eastern portion of this parish, once part of the possessions of the abbey of St. Radigund, which after the dissolution, was granted by Henry VIII. to Archbishop Cranmer, who subsequently reexchanged it with that monarch. It was then passed from the crown, and ultimately went to the Gibbs's, of Devonshire, who first settled at Combe, in Hawking, and then removed to Elmestone. From the latter family, after passing into intermediate hands, this manor went by sale to the Spencer's; when, under Charles II. Alban Spencer, gent. having three daughters, they jointly succeeded to this property. No court is now held for this manor, although it formerly existed.

The Archbishop of Canterbury is entitled to lands in this parish, and within the liberty of Folkestone. There are no *parochial charities*, the poor constantly relieved are about eighteen, and casually sixteen.

Capell is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Dover. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, contains an aisle or chancel, having a low square tower at the west end. The church was always esteemed as a chapel to the church of Alkham, and was given, by the name of the chapel of Mauregge, by Hamo de Crevequer, to St. Radegund's monastery, in perpetual alms. After the dissolution this chapel, with the church of Alkham, passed to the archbishop of Canterbury, in which state it still remains, with the chapel of Capell le Ferne, otherwise St. Mary le Merge, appertaining thereto.

It is not valued separately in the king's books, being included in the vicarage of Alkham. The great tithes of Stotmere and Capell wards, in this parish, formerly belonging to St. Radigund's, are leased off by the archbishop. The lessee of the parsonage of Folkestone claims a portion of the great tithes.

This parish, in 1821, contained 27 dwellings; and at the same period, when the census of the population was taken by order of parliament, the number of inhabitants were, males 114, females 81, making a total of 195 souls.

Hawking, in old records *Havekynge*, and usually denominated *Hackinge*, lies north-west from Capell. This parish,

having scarcely any traffic, is little known; it stands upon elevated ground, and the situation is pleasant. The village and church occupy the south-east part; to the north is Hawkinge Mill green, and contiguous a small hamlet. This parish extends about a mile and a half, being one mile in breadth from east to west. The soil to the south-east is chalky, and the lands uninclosed open hilly downs; northward it is more level, the soil being either stiff clay or red earth, abounding in flint stones. There are large woods in this district extending to Swingfield and Alkham. At the south-west boundary of this parish is Combe farm, part of the mansion-house being within this parish.

A fair is held here on the 10th of October, for the hire of servants, on which account it is termed *a statute fair*.

The Manor of Hawking, otherwise Fleggs Court, was anciently held of the barony of Folkestone or Averenches, by Knights' service and ward to the castle of Dover, by a family bearing the same name. Under Henry II. it was so held by Osbert de Hawking of William de Albrincis; and, on the extinction of that family, it fell to the Fleghs, and so remained till the reign of Edward I., in the 23d year of which prince, William, son of John Flegh, gave this manor and church to the abbey of St. Radigund, when the mansion of this manor acquired the name of *Flegh's Court*. After the dissolution it was granted by Henry VIII. to Archbishop Cranmer, who afterwards re-exchanged it with the crown; however, it ultimately reverted back to the see of Canterbury, and so continues to the present time.

Bilcherst was a manor to the north of this parish, near Swingfield Minnis or Common, and was formerly held by the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem. After the dissolution it was granted by Henry VIII. in lease to Sir Anthony Aucher, by whom it was sold to Thomas Smersole, who alienated it to Mr. Richard Simmonds. The latter dying in 1641, it continued for some time in his descendants, after which, according to Hasted, no traces can be found of the names of its owners, or the precise situation it occupied.

Combe, anciently written *Cumbe*, is a manor situated at the south-east boundary of this parish, a part being also in Folkestone. This manor was formerly held of the barony of Averenches, or Folkestone, by knight's service, and ward of Dover castle, by

a family bearing the same name. It afterwards belonged to St. Radigund's abbey, in the register of which the Cumbes are often mentioned. It so remained until the dissolution, when it was granted in exchange by Henry VIII. to Archbishop Cranmer, who soon after re-exchanged the estate with the crown, when it was granted to Thomas Cromwell, afterwards earl of Essex, on whose attainder it reverted back to the king. It so continued until the reign of Mary, when it was granted to Edward Fynes Lord Clinton and Saye, who sold the property to Mr. Henry Herdson, after which it became vested in the family of the Earl of Radnor.

No charitable donations appertain to this parish; the poor constantly relieved are about six, and casually, not more than one or two.

Hawking is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Dover. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, stands on the edge of a steep acclivity, open and exposed to the south-west. It is a long narrow edifice, containing an aisle and a chancel, the whole composed of flints, with a low wooden turret. In the chancel there is a monument of John Herdson, Esq. of Folkestone, who died in 1622, as well as a tomb in memory of Stephen Hobday, most of the inscription being now obliterated. This church was formerly appendant to the manor, and given, as before observed, by William de Flegh to St. Radigund's monastery, in which state it continued until the dissolution, when it was granted by Henry VIII. to the Archbishop of Canterbury, in whose possession it still remains.

This church is a rectory, valued in the king's books at £7 7 10; it is now a discharged living of the certified yearly value of £30. In 1588 there were fifty-four communicants, it being then valued as above; in 1640 the communicants were the same, and its valuation was £60. The primate Tenison, by his will in 1714, left £200 in augmentation of this rectory, to which a similar sum was afterwards contributed by the governors of Queen Anne's bounty.

In 1821 there were sixteen habitations in this parish; and at the same period, when the census of the population was taken by order of parliament, the number of inhabitants were as follow: males 69, females 63, making a total of 132 souls.

FOLKESTONE: this parish, which gives its name to the hundred, was anciently bounded towards the south by the sea, but now by the town and liberty of Folkestone, which has long been made a *corporation*, exempt from the jurisdiction of the hundred. This district consists of a long strip of land, wherein the town is situated, extending the entire length of the parish, between the sea-shore and that portion still constituting part of the jurisdiction of the hundred and county magistrates, consisting of by far the major portion.

This parish is about three miles across, either way, being very pleasantly situated and healthy. The lofty chalk hills, not inclosed, and well covered with pasture, cross the northern part, forming very romantic scenery. Stretching further northward, that portion of the parish, from its elevated position, is call d the Uphill of Folkestone, where stands Tirlingham, on which spot an ancient mansion formerly existed, the site of which is now occupied by a farm-house. Contiguous is Hearn-forstall, in which direction the high road passes from Folkestone to Canterbury. The centre of the parish is in the beautiful vale of Folkestone, containing downs, meadows, brooks, marsh and arable lands, interspersed with dwellings and cottages, being abundantly watered; while at Ford-forstall, a mile northward of the town, rises a strong chalybeate spring. This portion of the parish, by far the larger part, as far as the high road from Dover to Hythe, is within the jurisdiction of Folkestone hundred; the smaller part, to the south, being within the liberty of the town of Folkestone. The hills commence close under the chalk or down hills to the east, joining the sea at Eastware bay, extending westward along the shore nearly to Sandgate castle, where they stretch inland towards the north, leaving a small space between them and the shore.

The prospect over the vale of Folkestone from the hill is delightful, on approaching the town from Dover; beyond which appears the church and town of Hythe, with Romney Marsh, and the elevated promontory of Beachy Head, majestically stretching far into the ocean. On the right is a lofty chain of down hills covered with verdure and chequered by flocks of sheep; to the left is the town of Folkestone, standing on the knoll of a hill close to the sea; and beyond, the azure deep: pre-

senting an unbounded prospect, with the exception of the promontory above described.

Folkestone was of considerable note in the time of the Romans and Saxons, and contained a celebrated monastery, which, in 927, was presented by King Athelstan to the see of Canterbury; wherein St. Eanswith, daughter of Eadbald, king of Kent, is said to have been educated, and subsequently became abbess, being buried there; when, in consequence of her pious life and numerous miracles, she was ultimately canonized.

This town was anciently of much greater extent than at present, having suffered by the encroachments of the sea. A castle is said to have been built here, by Eadbald, king of Kent, son of Ethelbert, which being partly destroyed by the fury of the Danes, and the ravages of Earl Goodwyn, was, about the year 1052, reduced to ruin, and then rebuilt by William de Albrincis or Averenches, lord of Folkestone, who made it the seat of his barony. This building also, which is supposed to have stood near the site of the former castle, being situated on a high cliff immediately over the sea, was, in the course of time, undermined by the waves, and, together with the ground whereon it was erected, swallowed up.

Near the site of this castle stood the Nunnery of St. Eanswith. Leland thus describes the condition of the town in his time:—Folcheston ys a v miles fro' Dover, and be algese stondeth very directly upon Boleyn. Hard upon the shore yn a place cawled the Castel yard be greate ruines of a solemne old nunnery, yn the walles whereof yn divers places apere great and long Briton brikes; and on the right hond of the quier a grave trunce of squared stone. The castel yard hath been a place of great burial; yn so much as wher the se hath woren on the banke, bones apere half stykyng owt:" and afterwards he adds, "Lord Clynton's grant father had there of a poore man a bote almost ful of antiquities of pure gold and silver."

In the reign of the Conqueror, the hundred and manor of Folkestone constituted part of the vast possessions of Odo, bishop of Bayeaux, which, in the 19th year of that king, were seized by the crown.

In 1378, the greater portion of this town was burnt by the French and Scots; and, under Elizabeth, it was so much

Drawn. by Geo. Shepherd

Engraved by S. Lacey.

DOVER CASTLE.

KENT.

1829 by Geo. Virtue, 26, Ivy Lane

reduced, as to have contained only 120 houses, and about 120 men, of whom seventy were employed in fishing. However, it appears most probable, that the latter statement is erroneous, since the number of ships of various sizes at this place is admitted to have amounted to twenty-five, being very disproportioned to the few inhabitants above mentioned. That Folkestone was then reduced to great distress, appears certain; and that the industry and zeal of the inhabitants have been the means of its increase, in point of opulence as well as extent, is an undoubted fact, as the town has not been augmented by new settlers.

The town is a branch of the Cinque Port of Dover, and, like the rest of the members of that body, ranks as a Corporation by prescription; consisting of a mayor, who is one of twelve jurats, a recorder, town-clerk, chamberlain, and twenty-four common-council men. The mayor and chamberlain are chosen annually by the freemen, on the 8th of September. The corporation seal bears the figure of St. Eanswith, represented with a coronet on her head, holding in one hand a pastoral staff, and in the other two fish on a half-hoop.

This manor, to which a park and mansion house were formerly appendant, are in the possession of the Rt. Hon. Jacob Pleydell, earl of Radnor, upon whom the town confers the title of viscount, which by courtesy is used by the eldest son of that nobleman.

Folkestone stands on very unequal ground, near the extremity of the sand hills, between the chalky cliffs bordering the sea from Dover, to within a mile eastward of the town; while, in another direction, stretches the level of Romney Marsh. The streets are steep, narrow, and irregular, but constantly clean, owing to their situation; while of late years, they have been considerably improved by an Act of Parliament passed for paving and lighting the town.

The place abounds with lodging-houses, and is much resorted to by persons fond of the sea-side and retirement; as well as those who are desirous of obtaining relief in scrofulous complaints, who have been more frequently benefited by a residence here, than at any other bathing resort in this part of the kingdom. Most of the buildings are situated in deep hollows, and on the sides of Folkestone vale, as far as its termination on the sea-shore. Some of the dwellings are more elevated, commanding extensive views of the ocean; while, on a smooth plain

westward, stands the parish church, dedicated to St. Mary and St. Eanswith. The structure contains three aisles, and the same number of chancels, with a square tower in the centre of the building, containing a clock and a peal of eight bells. It is a plain gothic edifice, composed of sand-stone, intermixed with other materials, probably from the remains of the ancient abbey, which stood at a little distance on the south-east. On a spot, still retaining the name of *the Bayle,* (from *bailie,* a castle, court, or place of ward, and safe keeping,) a few fragments of arches are still visible.

The church is considerably reduced in size, and altered from its original construction in 1137, at which period it was founded by Nigel de Mandeville, lord of Folkestone, a descendant from William de Albrincis. Independent of the various alterations which had been previously made, the whole length of two of the arches, at the west end, was blown down by the violence of the wind, on the 19th of December, 1705; after which, as one only was repaired, the body of the church was rendered more incommodious and inadequate to the population of the place. The roof was also covered with tiles, the walls lowered, and the reparations effected with so little architectural skill, that the whole building, excepting the tower and a few arches of the old windows, with their stone mullions, towards the east end, is wholly destitute of external beauty.

The stone coffin or chest wherein the body of *St. Eanswith* had been deposited, was discovered during the last century, with an hour glass and several medals. The legends had been destroyed by corrosion, but the corpse of the Saint remained so perfect, that many locks of her hair were preserved as sacred relics. The church contains many funeral monuments; among which, near the entrance on the north side, is the tomb of John Pragell, four times mayor of this town, and sixteen years lieutenant of Sandgate castle, who died in 1676.

Descending the steps: in the north wall is a small tablet for William Hogben, jurat, 1628; in the pavement below, a tablet for Charles Erskine, 8th earl of Kellie, viscount Fenton, premier viscount of Scotland, ob. 1799; and two tablets of the Fagg's, ob. 1692 and 1701. Under an arch in the north wall of the chancel is a very ancient tomb, with the effigy of a man having a talbot at his feet, probably placed there in memory of one of

the family of Fiennes', constable of Dover castle, and lord warden of the Cinque Ports; a brass tablet, records the name of Matthew Philpot, ob. 1603; in the pavement, is another tablet to the memory of John Tims, LL.B. forty-one years minister of this church, who died in 1813; above is the monument of Robert Petman, ob. 1786; and another stone to the memory of William Langhorne, A.M. vicar of this town, A.D. 1772. He was author of several treatises in defence of the church of England; and, in conjunction with his brother, Dr. John Langhorne, produced a learned and ingenious translation of Plutarch's Lives. Within the communion rails repose the ashes of Dr. J. Langhorne; near which, are the monuments of Matthew Read, ob. 1632, and William Read, ob.1654. On the north side of the altar are several memorials of the Cloke family; and, under the chancel, vaults of the Pettman and Sladen families. In the south aisle is a tablet for Capt. John Jordan, six times mayor, and forty years lieutenant of Sandgate castle. In the south chancel, (used as a vestry,) is an elegant marble monument, presenting the effigies of twin brothers, John and Henry Herdson, with an inscription for the former, who lies buried in Hawkinge church, ob. 1622. In the west aisle are the mementos of Isaac Hague, ob.1772, and four of his children; and Joane Harvey, who died in 1605.

The churchyard also abounds in epitaphs, many of which display an unusual degree of eccentricity in the writers.

Hasted mentions an immense collection of bones in a vault or charnel house under Folkestone church, similar to that existing at Hythe. The account given of the origin of these extraordinary piles, varies considerably from that preserved in the church of Hythe, and commonly accredited from tradition. Hasted conjectures, that these mementos of mortality are the bones of Britons and Saxons, slain in a battle fought upon the banks of the Darent, in the western part of Kent, about the year 456, when Vortimer, the British monarch, pursued the Saxons to the sea-side, of whom he made a great slaughter. The above historian conceives that the pile at Hythe contains the remains of the Britons, and that the bones at Folkestone are those of the Saxons. Without waiting to enquire how the bones of an undistinguished multitude slain in battle, and promiscuously intermingled in a combat fought hand to hand, could, after lapse of

ages, during which they had lain bleaching upon the sea-shore, be classed according to their respective nations, it will be a sufficient refutation of Mr. Hasted's account to state, that *no such bones exist at Folkestone;* and that the oldest inhabitant never heard of such a collection.

In the year 1805, a work was undertaken, which, it was hoped, would prove highly beneficial to the inhabitants of Folkestone, as well as the neighbourhood; and of great utility to the mercantile interests of the kingdom: the foundation stone of a spacious pier or harbour was laid by Thomas Baker, esq. mayor, a gentleman, who, by the suffrages of the freemen, has been called no less than eleven times to the civic chair. This pier is already carried out to the extent of 1500 feet, forming a convenient promenade, as well as a commodious shelter for small craft; yet, although built with the most substantial materials, and completed in a workmanlike manner, experience has already shewn, that it is incapable of effectually resisting the tremendous violence of south-western gales, whereby the heavy surf is dashed with such impetuosity, that portions of the work have already suffered considerable injury. Some hopes are, however, entertained, that government, sensible of its importance, and the advantage of giving due encouragement to the trade and fisheries upon this coast, will extend its fostering hand towards the completion of the original design. Since the formation of the pier, the sea has made great encroachments upon the town at its eastern point, and a stone quay has been, in consequence, erected.

The harbour is defended by a small fort on the south-eastern point of the eminence whereon the church stands, near the site of the ancient monastery, and by the neighbouring martello-towers on the cliff to the eastward. The fort above mentioned mounts only four guns, but is provided with a furnace, &c. for supplying them with red-hot balls.

Many of the inhabitants are engaged in the fishery, which presents a busy scene, especially during the whiting, mackerel, and herring seasons. There are also considerable quantities of skate, soles, and other flat fish taken here, and some few shell-fish. The London markets derive a considerable portion of their supply, particularly of herrings and whitings, from this port; whither they are now chiefly forwarded by a light and expeditious mode of land carriage.

A custom formerly prevailed here amongst fishermen, of selecting eight of the largest and best whitings out of each boat, on their return from fishing, and selling them apart from the rest, in order to raise a fund for the celebration of a feast on Christmas eve, which they called *a Rumbald.* This practice is now disused, although many of the inhabitants continue to assemble for the celebration of what is still termed *Rumbald night,* a custom conjectured to have originated in the offerings formerly made to the Saint of that name, as one of the patrons of fishermen, and their guardian from the perils of the sea.

The cliff on which Folkestone church is built, appears to consist of sandstone and fine earth. Large portions, which have fallen down upon the beach by a *land slip,* have sunk from their original situation, forming irregular ledges at the foot of the precipice, which border the sea from Folkestone to Sandgate. It is generally believed by the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, and especially the fishermen, who pass much of their time near the sea-coast, that the cliffs are not undermined by the water, which, in reality, seldom, even at the period of the highest tides, approaches near their base: they, on the contrary, believe that resting upon a slippery kind of clay or marl, termed *slipe,* which dips or declines towards the water, the superincumbent weight of the hills above, pressing them forward, they sometimes glide from their connexion with the rest of the land, and, in the same manner as a ship is launched, are precipitated forward towards the beach. This opinion receives confirmation from the appearance of the masses which have fallen, as well as the *slipe* or clay, where it lies exposed to view, either by the action of the waves, or the cliff being harder and more compact, imbibing less humidity, and therefore not being so frequently loosened by the effect of frost. This clay or *slipe,* when first laid bare, is of a fine light slate-blue colour; but gradually becomes darker, until in some places it turns of a deep black, and increases in hardness by long exposure to the air. It is ultimately converted into a firm and solid stone, fit for all the purposes of paving, building, &c. and, with the rest of the stone found here, employed for the erection of the fortifications at Dover, Dunkirk, and many other places; innumerable specimens of such transmutations in their progressive stages being visible along this part of the coast.

On some of those masses the impressions made by the roots

and branches of trees, once imbedded therein, remain after they have acquired the solidity and hardness of stone; while in many pieces a friable substance is found adhering to the surfaces of the grooves formed in the same, of a nature altogether different from the stones themselves to which it unites, thus clearly demonstrating its vegetable origin.

Many petrifactions are said to have been found here, and, if credit be given to some accounts, very curious and uncommon specimens of this interesting process of nature. A correspondent of the editor of the Gentleman's Magazine, under the signature of *Samuel Gramshaw,* in 1792, mentions his having picked up near the cliff, almost on a line with the ancient burial ground, "a stone of a brownish ash colour, very ponderous, which in form exactly resembled that of the human heart enclosed in its pericardium: the great vessels seeming to be pinched together at their going out of the heart; and, on its being broken, the ventricles were observed to be separated by a substance of a more florid colour than that of the external surface, and the cavities lined with a shining purple spar: the remainder being of the nature of flint, and of great hardness." Mr. G. states that he kept this curiosity in his possession for two years, but afterwards presented it to the Polish ambassador, who wished to place it in the royal cabinet at Warsaw.

The *cornu ammonis,* the nautilus in a metallic state, small fishes, oyster shells, muscles, cockles, and all the varities of the testaceous tribe commonly found upon this coast, may also be traced in the midst of the sand and lime stones that abound in the cliffs. The naturalist and geologist may, therefore, find a rational source of amusement in the vicinity of Folkestone.

Passing along the vale of Folkestone, on arriving at the foot of the hills forming its northern boundary, whose summits are distinguished by particular names, and well known as landmarks to the coasting vessels and fishermen, is a romantic spot, where stands a cottage half hidden among the fruit trees, on which account it is called the *Cherry Garden.* It rises at the foot of an amphitheatre of hills, which, with the boldest slope, ascend to an astonishing height, while on the east and west they project forward so as to afford a complete shelter to this snug retreat. The fine valley opening in front, interspersed with woodlands and hop gardens, presents a varied landscape in which the town of

Folkestone and its church, the martello towers, the white cliffs towards the south-east, and the wide expanse of the sea, combine to produce one of the finest prospects imaginable.

The cottage is fitted up as a house of refreshment, and much visited in the summer season by the inhabitants of Folkestone, Sandgate, and the neighbourhood.

In the Cherry Garden is a copious spring of water, which runs along the valley, and having been diverted from its natural course by St. Eanswith, was conducted to her monastery through an aqueduct of brick, and still supplies a reservoir on the Bayle before mentioned. The above spot being supposed to occupy higher ground than any other part of the valley, has given rise to an erroneous notion that by the miraculous power of the Saint the water is made to ascend the hill! Near Cherry Garden, and upon the summit of a lofty eminence, about a mile and a half in a direct line from the seaside, northward, is Castle hill, described by Camden as having been originally a Roman fortification, constructed by the Emperor Theodosius for the purpose of protecting this coast from the depredations of invaders. It was afterwards possessed by the Britons, and lastly by the Saxons. The remains of the intrenchments demonstrate that the inner work or prætorium was of an oval form, the longest diameter being about fifty yards; but the outer or lower works are more nearly approaching to a square, and of double the extent, the whole covering about two acres. On the south-east side of the hill, which is very steep, there is only a single *vallum*, but the ditch is double which encompasses it on the east, and it has been asserted that there were three lines of circumvallation on the north, though two only are now to be traced. The whole of the surface is covered with fine verdant turf, but there is not the smallest vestige of any building, or a stone to be found upon the spot.

A large field contiguous to the hill covered by these works is now in tillage; but neither there nor in any other part of the immediate neighbourhood are any traces of *barrows*, or other remains of their ancient occupants, to be found.

In regard to the existing state of Folkestone, as calculated to accommodate visitors, we must notice that the hot bath is in Queen's place; and several commodious bathing machines ar stationed at the western side of the harbour.

A society for conversation and debate on literary and moral subjects is held weekly; and a book society, monthly.

Here is a chapel for the followers of Whitfield; a baptist and quakers' meeting-houses; with respectable seminaries for youth; as well as a school on the Lancasterian system, and a branch of the Cinque Ports Bible society, both of which are supported by subscriptions and donations.

A charity school is also established in this town, to which the celebrated Dr. William Harvey contributed £200 by will: nor should we omit to mention that here that distinguished physician was born, who, after immortalizing his name by that most important discovery, the circulation of the blood, and having spent a long life in acts of benevolence and humanity, being in his old age deprived of sight, fell a victim to despair, and terminated his mortal career by poison.

The town contains two libraries, the principal one being in High street, where the London and provincial newspapers are taken in, for the use of subscribers; and the other, on a smaller scale, at the corner of Rendezvous street.

Two fairs are held during the year, one on Thursday in Easter week, the other on the 28th of June. There is also a theatre under the management of Mr. Dowton.

In 1821 there were 794 houses in Folkestone; and at the same period, when the census of the population was taken by order of parliament, the numbers were, males 1862, females 2127, making a total of 3989 souls.

The Manor of Tirlingham, with Ackhanger, the former situated in the northern or uphill part of this parish, was, in ancient times, of high account. Under William the Conqueror, with Ackhanger in the adjoining parish of Cheriton, it appears to have been held by Nigell de Muneville, from whom it passed to the family of Albrincis or Averenches, so frequently adverted to, of which barony the manor of Tirlingham with Ackhanger constituted a principal limb. From William de Averenches it went to the Crevequer's, which line terminated under Henry III. in four daughters; when Agnes, having espoused John de Sandwich, and Eleanor, Bertram de Crioll, their husbands became possessed of this property. Joane, daughter of the latter, on the death of her brothers, possessed their inheritance, which she conveyed in marriage to Richard de Rokesle,

who having two daughters, they in marriage entitled their husbands to these manors. The whole ultimately fell to Michael, son of Thomas de Poynings, by his wife Agnes, elder of the two sisters above mentioned. In the family of Poyning's these estates remained to Robert de Poynings, who died under Henry VI., when the property passed to Alice, daughter of Richard, his eldest son, who died during his lifetime, being wife of Henry lord Percy afterwards earl of Northumberland; and in the above descents they continued to Henry earl of Northumberland, who died the 29th of Henry VIII., having granted all his possessions to the king, in the event of his dying without male issue. These manors, having devolved to the crown, were granted to Cromwell earl of Essex, on whose attainder the king passed them to Edward lord Clinton and Saye, with various other manors, all which he, the ensuing year, passed away, as before observed, by sale, to M. Henry Herdson, after which, as more particularly mentioned before, they devolved to the Rt. Hon. Jacob Pleydel Bouverie, earl of Radnor.

Courts-baron are regularly held for the manors of Tirlingham and Ackhanger.

Bredmer, commonly called *Broadmead*, is another manor near the western boundaries of this parish, adjoining Cheriton, wherein it is partly situated. In early times it belonged to a family bearing the same name, many individuals so called having held lands of the Valoign's family. Towards the close of the reign of Edward III. it was held by the Brockhull's, of Saltwood, and then went in marriage to the Selling's, in which descent it continued till the reign of Henry VIII. when it passed to the Inmith's. In the reign of James I. this property was alienated to one Beane, and subsequently sold to the Werger's, and then to the Bayley's, from which latter family it devolved to William Bouverie, earl of Radnor. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Morehall is a small manor near Cheriton, anciently held of the barony of Folkestone by William de Valentia, who obtained a charter of privileges from Henry III. Under Edward II. it passed to the Detling's, and then to a family that assumed its name, which becoming extinct under Henry VI., it was possessed by the Baker's, of Caldham. By the marriage of Joane, under Henry VI., she passed this manor to her hus-

band, Robert Brandred, after which we find the estate went to Sir Thomas Browne, of Beachworth castle, whose descendant, Sir William, under Elizabeth, alienated it to the Godman's, of London. In the reign of Charles I. this property fell to the Eldred's, whose descendant, under Charles II., passed it to the Michel's, from whom, under Queen Anne, it was alienated to the Desbouverie family, and so continued with the other estates in this parish, down to the Rt. Hon. Jacob earl of Radnor. A court-baron is regularly held for this manor.

Hope House, usually called *Hope Farm*, is an estate north of this parish, near Combe, in ancient times possessed by the Hougham's, and thence, by a female alliance, was passed to the Shelving's and Valoign's. Under Edward II. we find this property held by William de Clinton, earl of Huntingdon, in which line it continued to John lord Clinton, in the time of Henry VII. It then passed by sale to the Davis's, and then, by marriage of a female heir, to the Lessington's, who at the close of Elizabeth's reign, sold it to the Hopday's, in which family it continued till, by a daughter of that name, it went in marriage to the Thomas's, of Alkham.

About a mile and a half westward of Folkestone, and within the liberty of that town, stands the Castle of Sandgate, situated at the foot of the hill, which in all probability derived its appellation from the nature of the soil upon which it is erected, at the entrance or opening of a sandy hollow way, giving a passage to the road leading from the adjacent highlands to the beach.

The earliest, and perhaps the only, account extant respecting the history of Sandgate, is the mention of a castle standing here in the reign of Richard II., who directed his writ to "the keeper of the castle of Sandgate," to admit Henry of Lancaster, duke of Hereford (afterwards Henry IV.), with his family, horses, and attendants, to tarry there six weeks for refreshment.

By order of the same monarch, there were made in this fort, as in others erected about the same period, *lunettes* arched with stone, having portholes, and batteries for guns. In the centre was a round tower, or keep, containing the apartments of the governor or captain, a deep fosse with a drawbridge encompassing the whole, with the exception of that side next the sea, by which the ditch is filled. In successive ages the captain,

storekeepers, and gunners, received their appointments from the lord warden of the Cinque Ports.

On the site of this building, which was probably either decayed, or had been demolished, another castle was erected about the year 1539, under Henry VIII. when it was thought expedient to fortify the coast by the erection of similar edifices in various parts. These castles were small, and approximated to a circular form, as at Hurst, in Hampshire, and Cowes, in the Isle of Wight, &c. By the escheat rolls of the 7th of Edward VI. it appears that the king granted, to Edward lord Clinton and Saye, "the castle and fort of Sandgate," to hold *in capite* by knight's service; but it soon afterwards reverted to the crown, in which state it has ever since remained.

It is recorded to have formerly had eighteen pieces of ordnance; and the apartments which it contained may be presumed to have been commodious, for, when Queen Elizabeth made her famous progress to the coast, in 1588, her majesty honoured Sandgate castle with her presence, and was entertained and lodged there by the governor. However, after making every allowance for the difference between the accommodations which at that period might have been deemed sufficiently splendid for so great a sovereign, and those which in modern days would be thought necessary, it is impossible to conceive that Sandgate castle could have afforded room enough for any great train of courtiers or attendants. An old view of this structure, which may be seen painted on panel in the dilapidated mansion at Mount Morris, is a sufficient corroboration of the opinion we have hazarded.

By degrees the building fell into decay, and after many alterations, in the years 1805 and 1806, it underwent a complete repair, and was adapted for the purposes of defence according to the modern practice of warfare. It now mounts ten pieces of ordnance, twenty-four pounders; having in the centre a circular martello tower of considerable height, with a platform on the roof, which is bomb-proof, and a twenty-four pounder on a traversing carriage. The diameter of the tower is thirty feet ten inches within the walls, the latter being of great thickness, the whole capable of lodging forty men, and holding a large magazine of ammunition, so as to present a very formidable object to an enemy's cruisers whensoever they ventured towards the shore.

During the late war, as just observed, Sandgate castle underwent material alterations; in effecting which, a great part of the ancient edifice was taken down, leaving only the centre tower or keep, the watchtower at the entrance, and the boundary walls. A number of other apartments, mostly of a circular form, which surrounded the centre tower, were entirely removed: among which, that called the Queen's room, arising, as previously mentioned, from the circumstance of Queen Elizabeth having taken up her abode therein, for a short time, when the celebrated Spanish armada was in the channel. In this room was preserved, till the year 1785, the identical bedstead upon which her majesty slept; the hangings were of tapestry, and in a very tattered condition.

Besides the security afforded by this fortress against any sudden attack, every eminence in the vicinity is also crowned with a *martello* tower, of smaller dimensions, each capable of accommodating from twenty-four to thirty men, with a piece of heavy ordnance on the roof, many having also a five and half inch howitzer as an additional defence against the temerity of an invader.

These *martello* towers are respectively numbered, beginning with that occupying the lofty eminence called *Copt-point*, eastward of Folkestone, when, at intervals of between a quarter and half a mile, they are ranged along the shore near the water's edge, or on hills boldly commanding the ocean, which, together with the batteries called Fort Twiss, Moncrief battery, Fort Sutherland, the Circular redoubt, &c. completely protect the coast from an invading force. These towers are all of similar construction, composed of brick, the walls being of great thickness, the shape an obtruncated cone, and the height between thirty and forty feet. Those erected on the hills have their foundations laid at the bottom of a deep pit, which being considerably larger than the base, forms a dry ditch around the building. The entrance is guarded by a drawbridge, which, when raised, forms a double door, the inner one, as well as that leading to the magazine within the lower story of the tower, is strongly cased with copper. A large pillar rises in the centre, from the summit of which springs an arch that unites on all sides with the exterior wall, forming a roofing, bomb-proof, to which there is an ascent by a winding staircase, surmounted by a platform,

Drawn by Geo. Shepherd.

Engraved by I. Lambert.

SANDGATE.

KENT.

WITH THE NEW CHAPEL TAKEN FROM THE FOLKSTONE ROAD.

Published 1829 by Geo Virtue 26 Ivy Lane

whereon is a long twenty-four pounder, and an howitzer on some of the towers, as before mentioned.

Sandgate owes its origin as a village to a gentleman of the name of Wilson, who, about the year 1773, settled there as a shipbuilder, and erected his residence; the same house is still standing in its primitive state, being now the property of Mr. Robert Marsh. Mr. Wilson, finding his business prosperous, afterwards erected a more commodious residence, together with a great number of smaller tenements for his workmen, and others for sale; the whole constituting thirty dwellings, mostly at the eastern end of the village. He continued a resident in Sandgate about twenty-five years; and, during that period, built a considerable number of large ships and vessels for his late majesty's service; others as privateers, carrying about twenty guns; besides numerous vessels for trading purposes. The example of Mr. Wilson brought together several other shipwrights, who established building-yards, and erected houses both for their own residence and that of their workmen. In this manner was built nearly the whole of that side of the street next the sea, as well as a great portion of the houses on the other side, lying between the turnpike and the New Inn. The beach, from the eastern end to the spot now occupied by the warm baths, was then covered by timber and building-yards, with ships on the stocks, &c. a circumstance that amply accounts for the irregular manner in which the houses in this part of the village were raised at the period alluded to. Every one then constructed his house, &c. to suit his own convenience, without any view to the accommodation of visitors; for, it was not until 1794 that lodging-houses were much wanted. In that year, a large encampment was formed on the adjoining heights, called Shorncliffe; upon which, barracks were afterwards erected, for infantry and artillery. This place became one of the most celebrated military stations in the kingdom, from the above year to the close of the war, and was for a long period under the command of the gallant Sir John Moore. It was at this spot he trained and disciplined several of those regiments (particularly the 43d, being his own, the 52d, and the 95th, now the Rifle Brigade, with some others,)which afterwards, as light troops, performed the most celebrated feats of valour, during the Peninsula war.

Sandgate was several times visited by His Royal Highness the

Commander-in-Chief, and the royal brothers; particularly during the time this district was under the control of Sir John Moore. At those periods the troops on Shorncliffe, and in the neighbouring barracks of Saltwood and Brabourn Lees, were reviewed, those military evolutions being grand in the extreme; as the ground whereon the troops were drawn out is eminently calculated for such a martial display.

From the period when Shorncliffe first became a military station, Sandgate has been gradually and deservedly rising in public estimation as a watering-place. During the war it was mostly occupied by the friends and relations of the military, many of whom were persons of high rank and influence, such having been the origin of the celebrity of this watering-place. Since the termination of the war, it has continued to attract the notice of many families of the first consequence, and of the highest respectability; wherefore, in the summer months, the lodging-houses are completely occupied, and would be equally resorted to were there double the number.

As regards situation and natural beauty, Sandgate ranks superior to any other watering-place in Kent or Sussex. The walks and rides in its vicinity far outvie the several bathing-places in the above counties; the country is exceedingly picturesque and romantic; while numerous antiquities are to be met with in its vicinity. The neighbourhood therefore furnishes ample employ for the pencil of the artist, abounding in extensive and beautiful landscapes, ruined castles, and other remains of gothic edifices.

This village lies parallel to the opposite coast of France, of which it commands a very clear and extensive view. Its aspect is directly south, being sheltered from the north and east winds by a range of hills. The air is particularly salubrious, and the winters so remarkably mild, that very fine plantations of trees grow almost down to the margin of the sea; on which account also persons afflicted with nervous disorders have been restored to health by a winter's residence in this delightful spot. The air of Sandgate is also deemed highly beneficial in cases of scrofula, as well as complaints arising from debility; added to which, there is a marine plant peculiar to this neighbourhood, which has been applied with almost unvaried success in numerous scrofulous affections.

Sandgate consists principally of one street, of a handsome

breadth, running nearly due east and west, at the foot of a range of lofty eminences, and on the very brink of the sea, of which it commands a boundless and delightful prospect. The houses, though in general small, are commodious, and remarkably clean, light, and cheerful. The greater number have been erected within the compass of a few years, for the reception of those visitors who resort hither for the purpose of sea-bathing. Indeed there are few situations between Dover and the Lands-end better adapted for the residence of invalids who are desirous of enjoying the combined advantages of the water, the saline breezes, and exercises either on foot, on horseback, or in carriages, free from the annoyance of a crowd, and the fatigue and bustle incident to larger and more populous towns.

That which has been eloquently said of another place of fashionable resort may, with at least equal propriety, be applied to Sandgate. "It has cheerfulness without noise, tranquillity without dulness, and facility of communication without the disturbance of a public road." To which may be justly added, that the charming expanse of ocean on the south, the softness and salubrity of the air, the remarkable purity of the water, and the accommodations which it yields for bathing, afford the strongest recommendations for this spot to those who study health, while the excellence and plentiful supply of provisions of all kinds, especially fish, the goodness of the roads, and variety of interesting and striking objects which the adjacent country affords, render it highly worthy the attention of those to whom amusement and pleasure constitute the principal inducements for making a summer excursion.

The beach, consisting of gravel, and sloping boldly from the houses to the water's edge, is always free from humidity, and affords an agreeable walk, eastward, as far as Folkestone, unless when the tides are very high; and, in an opposite direction, much beyond the town of Hythe.

At the western extremity of the village, commanding an ample view of the sea, is a commodious mansion belonging to Sir John Shaw, bart. as well as several habitations capable of accommodating families of distinction, situated, for the most part, in such a manner as to present an interesting display of scenery; nor must we omit, in particular, to mention the elegant villa of the earl of Darnley, built on a considerable elevation, overlook-

ing the houses of the village, the ocean, and the ships with which it is almost constantly studded. This fascinating *sejour* is surrounded by plantations, in a thriving state, which, on attaining their full growth, will afford a delightful appendage to the numerous interesting objects in the vicinage.

There is established in Sandgate a circulating library and reading-rooms, where, in the height of the bathing season, musical entertainments are also given in the evening. There are also very good hot and cold sea-water baths, and numerous bathing machines.

A school on Dr. Bell's system is established at Sandgate, supported by the subscriptions of the inhabitants and donations of the visitors. There is also a chapel of the Wesleyans, which was opened a few years back.

A fair is annually held at this village on the 23d of July.

In the year 1821, the parish of Folkestone contained 100 houses; and at the same period, when the census of its population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 291, females 261, making a total of 552 souls.

Cheriton is the next parish westward from Folkestone, in old records written *Cherington* and *Ceriton*. This district lies between two ranges of the down and quarry hills which approximate within two miles of each other, the country being wild and little frequented, and the marine prospects, with the breaks of the hills, affording very romantic views. The land is, generally speaking, but poor and barren, the soil being of a chalky nature. The village, with its church, stand very high; the intervening valley consisting, for the most part, of meadow land watered by numerous springs, that unite in a larger one rising at Pean farm beneath the hills, and flowing through the vale towards Folkestone. In the bottom stands the court lodge, an ancient structure, the surrounding lands being sandy, and eastward covered by furze and brakes. Farther in the bottom, between the quarry hills, is Horn street, where Seabrook stream, that rises in Newington parish, turns a paper and corn mills, and one mile farther, Seabrook mill. The current then crosses the high road, from Hythe to Sandgate, under a bridge, when it loses itself in the sand and beach of the sea-shore, which here constitutes the southern boundary of the parish. The small current of Enbrooke

rising near the oaks, a mile and a half hence, runs by Querling hither, and then equally loses itself in the sea beach. At Underhill in this parish, the Duke of Richmond lay as he passed to and from Charles II. while in exile, during the day concealing himself in the wood, still called Richmond's shave, whose owner, at that period, named Writtle, was, at the restoration, rewarded with the governorship of Upnor castle.

The Manor of Cheriton was anciently held of the barony of Averenches, by a family which thence derived its name. Waleran de Ceritone possessed this property under Henry III., and, on the extinction of that name in the reign of Edward I., it went to Roger de Mereworth, when William de Brockhull had some joint interest with him in the same. From the latter possessors it went to the Valoyns', who held this manor under Edward III., that prince having granted a charter of *free warren* for this manor. By the marriage of a female heir the property then devolved to her husband, Sir Francis Fogge, who, dying, was interred in the church of this place, where his effigies were formerly represented, cross legged, and completely armed, whereof nothing now remains. In that line the property continued until sold, by George Fogge of Braborne, to the Brockman's, when James, of that family, dying unmarried in 1767, devised this manor to the Rev. Ralph Drake, who assumed the name of Brockman, in which line it continued. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Swetton, formerly called *Swecton*, is a manor in the centre of this parish, and formed part of the barony of Averenches, being reputed a member of Tirlingham. It therefore passed, in like manner with that estate, in marriage, from the Crevequer's to the Criol's, and thence to the Rokesley's and Poyning's. By another female heir, it went to Henry Lord Percy, who, having devised it to Henry VIII. in case he had no issue male, the estate devolved to the crown. Having been granted to Thomas Cromwell, earl of Essex, and, on his attainder, to Edward Lord Clinton and Saye, the latter alienated it to Mr. Henry Herdson, of London, by one of whose descendants it was passed to the Brockman's above mentioned. Since that period this manor descended, in like manner, with Cheriton last described, down to J. Drake Brockman, esq. of Beechborough, in which line it continued. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Enbrooke, a manor in this parish, is situated half a mile eastward of the church, deriving its name from the adjoining spring. It was part of the barony of Folkestone, held by knight's service, and the enclosure of eighteen perches of Folkestone park and ward to Dover castle. Under Henry III. this estate was in possession of a family that erected a mansion here, and assumed the name. Walter de Elnesbroc held it under Henry II., in which line it continued until Henry III.; about which period the Abbot of Langdon owned a third part of the estate, which, in consequence, became *a distinct manor*, as we shall further mention hereafter. The portion remaining to the Einesbrooke's continued in that family down to Michael, who was a great benefactor to the church of Cheriton in the reign of Richard II. He erected the north chancel still appertaining to this manor, wherein are two very old tombs in a state of decay, being, says Hasted, the most ancient monuments of the kind he had as yet seen in this county. According to Philipott, they belonged to a male and female of the above named ancient line of Enbroke.

Under Henry IV. this manor was alienated to the Alkham's and the Thorold's, or Torold's, when the latter conveyed it to Nicholas Evering, of Evering in Alkham; and, in that family, the estate remained till the reign of Elizabeth. At the last-mentioned period it was passed to John Honywood, esq. of Elmsted, in whose descendants of Erington in that parish, now baronets, it has remained.

The Manor of Bishop's Enbrooke, usually called *The Oaks*, lying a short distance from that last described, was, as previously observed, originally a part, but being separated under Henry III., it fell to the Abbot of Langdon, who held it by knight's service, &c. In that state it remained until the suppression, when it was granted by Henry VIII. to Archbishop Cranmer, when, in order to distinguish it from the other manor of the same name, it acquired that of *Bishop's Enbrooke*. Having been reexchanged with the crown, it so continued until Queen Elizabeth, in her 42d year, granted it to the Sandy's, of Northborne, in which family it remained until alienated to the Glanvill's, of Ightham, by whom it was ultimately passed to the Cock's, of Folkestone, when Henry of that name dying, in 1792, the manor devolved to the heirs of that gentleman.

Caseborne is a manor to the west of this parish, held of the barony of Folkestone, by knight's service, &c.; the family bearing the same name having a castellated residence thereon, the ruins of which are still apparent. Galfridus de Caseborne, son of one bearing the same name, held this estate under Henry III. in whose descendants it remained down to Thomas, which inheritor is reported to have lived here in much state under Richard II. He dying without issue male, by his daughter Catherine it went in marriage to William de Honywood, of Henewood, in Postling, in which line, now baronets, the estate has remained vested. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Sweet Arden is another small manor, so sunk in obscurity as to be scarcely known. It was formerly held of the barony of Folkestone by knight's service, &c. In the book of Dover, under Edward I., it was held by the Brockhull's, and then by the Arden's; some time after which it passed to the Horne's, and so continued for a length of time. Under Henry VIII. it was possessed by the Man's, of Cheriton, who sold the property to the Aucher's; when a descendant of the latter, in 1691, conveyed this estate to the Topcliffe's. By the last-mentioned family the manor was alienated to Robert Broadnax, of Cheriton, whose heirs passed it to the Hobday's, of Hope House. By two female heirs it went by marriage to the Rolfe's and Thomas's, when it ultimately became vested in Mr. Reynolds, of Folkestone.

Ackhanger is a manor in this parish, being appendant to that of Tirlingham, in Folkestone; in describing which will be found an ample account of the same and its various owners down to Jacob, earl of Radnor.

No *parochial charities* exist here; the poor constantly relieved amount to thirty, and casually about twenty.

Cheriton is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Dover.

The church, dedicated to St. Martin, is built of sandstone, and contains two aisles and the same number of chancels, having a tower steeple at the west end. This church has ever been esteemed an appendage to Cheriton manor, whereof the owners have uniformly been patrons. It is a rectory, and valued in the king's books at £16 12 6, and the yearly tenths at £1 13 3. In 1588 the annual value was £100, and the communicants 170. In 1640 it was estimated at £80, the communicants 117. In

the year 1771 it was united to the vicarage of the adjoining parish of Newington, both churches then having the same patron.

In 1821 there were 205 houses in this parish; and at the same period, when the census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 521, females 600, making a total of 1121 souls.

Newington is the next parish eastward, usually called *Newington near Hythe*, to distinguish it from another parish of that name near Sittingborne. In Doomesday record it is written *Neventone*, having in all probability derived its appellation from some more ancient place previously existing in the neighbourhood.

This parish extends from the sea-shore northward to the hamlet of Arpinge, having a street of that name at the northern boundary of the parish, near Padlesworth. A portion is within the manor of Newington Belhouse, and part within that of Tirlingham, whereto it is appendant. It is situated half a mile beyond the ridge of chalk hills crossing this district on that side nearest the sea. The whole parish, like those adjoining, consists of romantic eminences and dales, the soil resembling that of Cheriton.

The church occupies a lofty station, with the village to the north. In the north-west part stands the seat of Beachborough, commanding a magnificent prospect of land and sea. The parish is well watered by two streams; one, coming from Beachborough Hill, runs under Saltwood castle to the east end of Hythe, being the boundary between the two parishes; the other, named Seabrook, rising under the down hills north-west of the parish near Etchinghill, at Lintwell, whence it flows south at the base of Milkey down, through Beachborough woods, to Frogwell, where it turns a mill, thence it flows to Newington and the hamlet of Bargrave, then to Horn street, after which it loses itself in the sea-beach.

Bargrave had formerly owners of that name under Henry III. for John de Beregrave conveyed lands here to Bertram de Criol. At Pean Farm, in this district, a stream rises, which enters Cheriton parish, running through Folkestone into the sea, which has been previously described when treating of those parishes.

Dr. Gale, in his comment upon Antoninus's Itinerary, observes that Roman coins had been discovered in this village. In 1760

was found, at Milkey down, a human skeleton, perfect, with the exception of the skull which had been much bruised. Near where the neck lay, were beads of various sizes and colours, perforated, as if they had originally been strung to form a necklace, while others were in the shape of ear-rings supposed to be agate, &c. Near the same spot were two other skeletons, with beads similar to the above, which had apparently been deposited in coffins, such not having been the case with the former.

The Manor of Newington, afterwards called, from its possessors, the Manor of Newington Belhouse, in Domesday record is entered as having formed part of the possessions of Hugo de Montfort. After the voluntary exile of Robert de Montfort, grandson of the above, under Henry I., this manor, with his other possessions, was vested in the crown. It does not appear how it then passed, but under King John it was held by Baldwin, earl of Guisnes, of whom it was purchased by the exemplary Hugo de Burgh, earl of Kent, who, in the 12th Henry III., had the same confirmed to him. John de Burgh, eldest son of the above, in the 44th of the same reign, on the demise of his father and mother, succeeded to this property, and obtained a charter of *free warren* for the manor. In the 55th of Henry III. he passed it away to his cousin-german, Sir Thomas de Belhus, seneschal of Ponthieu. In this family the property remained till the 48th of Edward III. when it went to the Knevet's, by the marriage of Joane, daughter of Sir Thomas Belhouse, at which period it acquired the name of *Newington Belhouse*. In the Knevet's this estate remained till the 16th of Henry VII., when Elizabeth, daughter of Edward Knevet, esq., espoused Sir John Rainsford, but dying in 1507, it devolved to Elizabeth, then wife of John Clopton, esq., as her next heir, descended from Walter de Clopton, who lived under Henry I. In 1535 this manor was alienated to Thomas lord Cromwell, on whose attainder the estate falling to the crown, it so continued until the 1st of Mary, who granted it to Lord Clinton and Saye. He, the ensuing year, passed it to Mr. Henry Herdson, of London, whose grandson Francis alienated the property, under James I. to Mr. Henry Brockman, of Newington, in which line it continued to James Brockman, of Beechborough, who willed it to the Rev. Ralph Drake, who assumed the name of Brockman, in which family it continued. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Bertram, usually called *Newington Bertram*, is another manor, adjoining *Newington Belhouse*, and was anciently part of the barony of the Averenches, and appendant to Tirlingham, in Folkestone, a parcel of it. From the Averenches it passed with Tirlingham, as above described, till the 1st of Mary, when it was granted, with Newington Belhouse, to Lord Clinton and Saye, who alienated it to Mr. Henry Herdson, when it passed as above.

Beechborough, anciently *Bilcheborough*, is north-west of this parish, at the foot of the chalk hills, having belonged to the Valoigns's, in which line it continued down to Waretius de Valoigns, whose daughter marrying Francis Fogge, he became entitled to the same. The latter dying, under Edward III., was buried in Cheriton church, and in his descendants it continued till the latter end of Elizabeth's reign, when it was passed by George Fogge, of Braborne, to Mr. Henry Brockman, of Witham, in Essex. His descendant, Sir William, greatly signalized himself in supporting Charles I., in 1648, by defending Maidstone, when attacked by General Fairfax, which proved one of the sharpest conflicts that occurred during the civil war. From the above, the estate and seat descended to James Brockman, who died in 1767 unmarried, and was interred at Newington, being the last heir male of that family. By will he devised this property to the Rev. Ralph Drake, who assumed the name of Brockman, and made great improvements in the seat and pleasure-grounds adjoining. He, dying in 1781, having married Caroline, youngest daughter of Henry Brockman, of Cheriton, by whom he had two sons; James, the eldest, succeeded to this property, in which line it continued.

Sene, now called *Singe Farm*, occupies the hill half a mile north from Hythe. It was formerly a place of note, having belonged to the ancient family of Valoigns's, in which it continued till a daughter of Waretius de Valoigns carried the estate in marriage to the Fogge's. In that family it remained till the reign of Henry VIII., when it fell to John Honeywood, esq., who resided here, and dying, in 1557, was interred in Canterbury cathedral. By will he devised the mansion of Sene, with his lands in Newington, Cheriton, and Saltwood, to his son, Thomas, in tail male, and in that line the estate continued.

Blackwose, otherwise *Canon's Court*, is a manor adjoining Sene Farm, the latter name being given in consequence of its

having been a religious house for canons of the Præmonstratensian order. It was dedicated to St. Nicholas, and made a cell to the priory of that order at Lavendene, in Buckinghamshire. The revenues proving insufficient, the fraternity abandoned the house and wandered about the country, to the great scandal of their order; which induced the chapter, at the instance of the barons or free burgesses of Hythe, to unite this cell to St. Radigund's abbey, with licence to convert it into a farm, to which purpose it was applied by the abbot. In this state it remained until the Reformation, when it was granted by Henry VIII., with the other estates of the abbey, to John Honeywood, esq., of Elmsted, in whose descendants, afterwards baronets, it remained. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Combe is a manor in the north part of this parish, and anciently belonged to the Criol's, who held it under Henry III. Bertram de Criol, with the consent of his sons, gave this property in perpetual alms to St. Radigund's abbey, which was confirmed in 1256 by Margaret, countess of Kent, as being of her fee. This property so continued till the Reformation, when it was granted by the crown, with all the estates of the abbey, to the archiepiscopal see; after which, being re-exchanged with the king, this manor was, with some others, reserved, and has continued part of the estates of that see to the present time.

This parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Dover. The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, has two aisles and the same number of chancels, with a pointed turret of wood on the roof at the west end. The structure contains several mementos of the Brockman's; there are also brass effigies of the Chylton family, who died in 1501, as well as John Clarke, vicar, interred the same year. A brass plate records the name of Christopher Raittinge, M.D. a Hungarian, who was for seven years first physician to the Emperor of Russia, and interred in 1612. The case of the font is of oak, and curiously sculptured. In the church porch there are also some ancient grave-stones, one of which, in the shape of a coffin, has *a cross botony*, with the same at the bottom of a smaller size.

Newington church formerly belonged to the abbey of Guignes, in Artois, whereto it was appropriated before the 8th of Richard II., and so remained until Henry V., when it came to the king;

by escheat, on the death of Katherine, the late abbess, and continued vested in the crown till the 17th of Henry VI. In that reign, this church, with the advowson of the vicarage and lands of the abbey in Newington, were granted to John Kempe, archbishop of York, with licence to settle the same on his newly founded college of Wye in perpetual alms, to appropriate the same to the members and their successors for ever. In this state it remained till the suppression of the college, when it was, with all the estates belonging to this institution, given by Henry VIII. with the presentation of the vicarage, &c to Walter Bucler, esq. to hold *in capite*, with certain provisions for the maintenance of the curate and schoolmaster of Wye. This grant, in consequence of the nonperformance of these conditions, was forfeited to the crown, when Charles I. granted the whole, with a proviso for the payment of certain stipends to the curates and schoolmaster, to Robert Maxwell, from whose heirs this rectory and advowson of the vicarage of Newington were sold to Sir William Brockman, in whose line it continued. The stipend paid to the curate and schoolmaster of Wye, in the grant to Robert Maxwell, was £50 to the former, and £16 per annum to the latter, out of the parsonages of Newington, Brenset, and Boughton Alaph, and the vicarage appropriate of Wye. The portion of the stipends allotted from the parsonages of Newington and Brenset is £20 per annum, which still continues to be paid.

The vicarage of Newington is valued in the king's books at £7 12 6, and the yearly tenths at 15s. 3d. In 1588 the estimation was £40, the communicants 175. It is now of the clear annual certified value of £48 17 3. In 1771, this vicarage was united to the rectory of Cheriton, both being in the presentation of the same patron.

In this parish, near Hythe, stood a chapel by the sea-shore, dedicated to St. Nicholas, where fishermen, after deliverance from danger at sea, used to offer up their thanks with one or more of their best fish, in gratitude to that saint. After the Reformation this edifice fell to decay, no vestige of the same being now remaining.

In 1821, there were 76 houses in this parish, and at the same period, when the census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 259, females 239, making a total of 498 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF LONINGBOROUGH.

This district is written in the record of Domesday by the several names of *Honinberg*, *Moniberge*, and *Nuniberg*, while some documents of less ancient date give it the name of *Lovingborough*. It contains within its bounds the parishes of Liminge, Stelling, Eleham, Acrise, and Padlesworth, with part of the parish of Upper Hardres, the church of which is in another hundred. *Two Constables* possess jurisdiction in this district.

The parish of Liminge lies east of those of Stowting and Elmsted, and is written in Domesday *Leminges*, and in other records, *Lymege*. It contains three boroughs; namely, Liminge, Siberton, and Eatchend.

This parish lies on the north or opposite side of the down hills from Stanford, not far from their summit. The district is large, comprising six miles lengthwise, and three in breadth from east to west; the rental producing upwards of £2000 per annum. The major part occupies elevated ground eastward of Stone-street way, where the appearance is dreary, and the ground rough, covered by woods, stunted coppice, broom, &c.; the soil is a red unprofitable earth, with abundance of sharp flints on the surface. Adjoining Stone-street way is Westwood, about two miles long; and contiguous the two commons of Rhode and Stelling Minnis, a small portion of the latter only being in this parish. The houses and cottages are scattered promiscuously upon and in the vicinity of those heaths, the natives being in a state nearly as uncultivated as the district they inhabit.

Near the southern boundary is the estate and manor of Liminge park, which, as well as Westwood formerly appurtenant to the manor of Liminge, were exchanged with it by Archbishop Cranmer with Henry VIII., in the 31st of his reign. To the east of the hills the soil becomes chalky, and near the base are the houses of Longage and Siberton; the former having belonged

to the Sawkin's and then to the Scott's. Afterwards, by marriage, to William Turner, of the White Friars, in Canterbury, and then to David Papillon, esq., in which family it remained. Below these hills is the great Nailborne valley, very spacious; on either side of which the eminences are lofty and the soil poor, but in the valley near the stream there are fertile lands and meadows, the country being pleasant and salubrious. The valley continues through the parish from north to south; above, on the side of the hill, stands the village of Liminge, wherein is the parsonage house, and still higher up, the church. More to the south, in the vale, is a dwelling called Broad street, for many generations the seat of the Slodden's. Still farther up, near the boundary of the parish, and adjoining the Hangres, being part of the downs which continue to Caldham, near Folkestone, a space of about six miles, is the hamlet of Eching hill or Eachand, erroneously so called for Ikenild, close under the hills, the principal house in which formerly belonged to the Spicer's, of Stanford, whence the road leads to Beechborough, and then to Hythe.

A fair is held in the village of Liminge annually, on the 5th of July, for toys, pedlery, &c.

Near Eching street, a little to the south, is a spring called Lint well, which runs southward below Newington, towards the sea, and on the north side rises another current, which takes a contrary course from the former, the one meandering through the vale, northward towards North Liminge. At that place, the stream is joined by two springs, which rise in Liminge village, north-east of the church, gushing from the rocks at a small space from each other; the lowermost, called St. Eadbury's well, never fails in its water. Those united springs, in summer, flow no farther than Ottinge, a mile from their rise, but when their waters burst forth, forming the stream called Nailbourn, then, even in the height of summer, they create a considerable stream, flowing with rapidity to Brompton's Pot, a deep pond, above Wigmore; having its own spring also, which scarcely ever overflows its bounds, except at the periods above alluded to. On those occasions it flows rapidly three miles and a half from Liminge, pursuing its course by Barham, to the head of the Little Stour, at Bishopborne, constituting a river of its own size. *These Nailbourns*, or land springs, are not unusual in the parts of this county eastward of Sittingborne; but on the other

side there is only one, at Addington, near Maidstone. The periods of their breaking forth are uncertain, as well as their continuance; however, when such is the case, the common people conceive it the forerunner of a dearth of the necessaries of life.

Dr. Gale, in his comments upon Antoninus's Itinerary, conjectures that, at Liming, *two Roman ways*, one from Lenham to Saltwood castle, and the other from Canterbury to Stutfal castle, intersected each other, as is the case nearer Lymne, and that the word *Lemen*, now *Leming*, was, in ancient times, used to denote a public way. Hence, the military route conducting from *Isurium* to *Cataractonium* is called Leming lane, and the adjacent town, Leming. In Gloucestershire, on the fosse way, stands Lemington; and thence the Doctor infers, that *Durolevum*, in Kent, was changed to Lenham, to denote its standing on the high road; and perhaps the name Ickneld, in this parish, previously mentioned, has further strengthened the conjecture, as, it is said, two Roman ways existed, called Icknild street, in this kingdom, though it has never been precisely determined where they existed.

The Manor of Liminge was part of the ancient possessions of Christ church, Canterbury, to which it had been given in 964, on the suppression of the monastery, founded in this parish by Ethelburga, or Eadburga, daughter of King Ethelbert, who founded this monastery in honour of the blessed Virgin, and of her own niece, St. Mildred. Ethelburga and St. Mildred were both buried here, and their bodies subsequently removed by Archbishop Lanfranc to St. Gregorie's, in Canterbury. This monastery first consisted of nuns, but was afterwards governed by an abbot, and so continued, till having suffered greatly from the ravages of the Danes, it was suppressed, and granted to Christ church, as above stated. The possessions here were contributed at various periods during the heptarchy, some being conferred on the church of Liminge, under the Primate Cuthbert, who had been abbot of this institution. The manor continued part of the possessions of Christ church, till Archbishop Lanfranc, dividing the revenues of this church between himself and his monks, this manor was allotted to the primate, in which state it continued when Domesday record was taken.

While this manor remained vested in the see of Canterbury,

Archbishop Ralph, who became primate in 1114, granted a penny a day to the hospital of Harbledown out of this manor, which was confirmed under Edward III. by Archbishop Theobald. The manor of Liminge, from an old record, was valued at £56 8 8 yearly income; in which state it remained till the 32d of Henry VIII. when Archbishop Cranmer exchanged it with that monarch for other premises. In the deed, however, all presentations, &c. were excepted, so that, while the manor remained vested in the crown, nine out of the twelve demesnes, in the Weald, agreed to pay an additional rental to the lord for licence to cut down wood growing thereon, which, by ancient custom, they had been restrained from.

Henry VIII., in his 38th year, granted the manor of Liminge, with the advowson of the churches of Liminge, Stanford, and Padlesworth, &c. to Sir Anthony Aucher, of Otterden, to hold *in capite*. He was killed at the siege of Calais, in 1557, and in his descendants it continued down to Sir Anthony Aucher, of Bishopsborne, who, after the death of Charles I., alienated the property, with the advowson, to Sir John Roberts, of Canterbury, who died in 1658, and was interred in St Alphage's church, in Canterbury. By his heirs it was sold to William Taylor, gent. whose descendant, John, dying, it went, in 1778, to Robert Hume, esq., and he conveyed it to Sir Andrew Hume, who died intestate, leaving one son and four daughters. Upon his death, the estate came to his four sisters, coheirs, who joined in the conveyance of the same to Alexander Wedderburne, esq. By the latter it was conveyed, with the advowson of the church of Liminge, to Ralph Price, rector, in which line it continued. A court-baron is held for this manor, which extends into Romney Marsh, over the culets of Eastbridge and Jeffordstone.

East Lyghe Court is a manor to the north-west of this parish, near the Stone-street way, and in the reign of Edward II. was held, by Stephen Gerard, of Henry de Malmayns. After that period it was possessed by Thomas Adelyn, in right of his wife, daughter of Waretius de Valoigns, who held it by knight's service, in the reign of Edward III. We next find this property held by the family of Leigh; John of that line dying possessed of East Lyghe, in the reign of Henry VI. as did his descendant Nicholas, of Addington, in Surrey. By the latter it was exchanged, by Henry VIII., for other premises. It was then

granted by the crown to Allen, of Borden, who soon after alienated it to the Fogge's, whence it passed to the Cobbe's, of Cobbe's court, and, in a few years after, to the Salkeld's, of Yorkshire. One of the descendants of the latter family alienated this property, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, to Mr. Nicholas Sawkins, of Longage, in this parish, who dying, in 1619, his heir, Mr. William Sawkins, gave it in marriage with his daughter to Mr. Ansell. By the heirs of the latter it passed, by sale, to the Bridges's, and then to his descendant, Thomas, of St. Nicholas, in the Isle of Thanet, with whom it remained.

Sibeton Manor is situated about half a mile north of the church, and was formerly held by the family of Fitzbernard, by knight's service. Ralph Fitzbernard left a son, Thomas, who died, and a daughter, Margaret, who conveyed this manor in marriage to Guncelin de Badlesmere, whose son, Bartholomew, succeeded to this patrimony. Through favor of Edward II. the latter obtained many immunities, and among others that of *free warren*, in the demesne lands of this manor. His son, Giles, dying possessed of this estate, his four sisters became his coheirs, when Margaret carried the same in marriage to Sir John Tiptoft. His son, Robert, dying without male issue, his three daughters became his coheirs, when, by Elizabeth, it was conveyed in marriage to Sir Philip le Despencer, upon whose death it came to their daughter, Margery, wife of Roger Wentworth, esq. His descendants passed it away to the Hant's, from which name it went to that of Allen, and thence to Sir James Hales, of the Dongeon, in Canterbury. His grandson, Sir James, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, alienated this property to the Salked's, whose descendants conveyed it to Mr. Nicholas Sawkins. In that line it continued until 1786, when Mr. Jacob Sawkins, of Sibton, conveyed it, by sale, to William Honeywood, esq. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Liminge is within the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Dover. The church, dedicated to St. Mary and St. Eadburgh, is built of quarry stone; it contains monuments to the memory of Sir William Holloway, and the family of the Sawkins's. At the south-east of the chancel is a remarkable buttress, and in the churchyard, two tombs for the family of the Scot's, of Longage. Henry Brockman, of Liminge, devised five pounds for the building the steeple; and

David Spycer gave a chalice, valued at five pounds. This church, with the chapels of Stanford and Padlesworth, were an appendage to the manor till the reign of Henry VIII., when the archbishop conveyed them to the crown, but reserved to himself the patronage and advowson thereof. The king then granted this manor, and its immunities, to Sir Anthony Aucher, as before mentioned, when it passed to Lord Loughborough, and from his heirs to the Rev. Mr. Ralph Price. The church of Liminge is free from the jurisdiction of the archdeacon. The rectory is a sinecure, and the vicar performs the whole service.

This rectory, with the two chapels, is valued in the king's books at £21 10, and the yearly tenths at £2 3; procurations £1 10; the vicarage at £10 18 9; and the yearly tenths at £1 13 10½. In 1588, there were 283 communicants; and, in 1640, the vicarage was valued at £80. The tithes and profits of this parish have since increased to the value of £400 per annum, exclusive of the chapels annexed to the same.

It appears, by the register of Horton Priory, that Liminge was once the head of *a rural deanery*; Sir Hugh, dean of Liminge, being mentioned as a witness to a deed, having no date, of Stephen de Heringod, who gave lands to that priory in the reign of Henry III.

In the year 1821 there were 108 dwellings in this parish; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 363, females 355, making a total of 718 souls.

Stelling, written in Domesday *Stellinges*, is the next parish north of Liminge, being the largest portion, wherein the church stands, and forms part of the hundred of Loninborough, the remainder being in the hundred of Stowting. Stelling is a parish little known, and lies contiguous to the east side of the Stone-street way, southward of Lower Hardres, in a wild hilly country. It is situated on high ground, and considered very healthy; the soil is barren, mixed with flints; on the north and east sides it is surrounded by wood; the heath, called Stelling Minnis, comprises nearly all the parish, and a considerable distance beyond, reaching into the parishes of Liminge and Eleham, constituting, in the whole, upwards of two miles in length. This district is interspersed with houses and cottages, the orchards and fields form-

ing uncommon and beautiful scenery, while the natives are as wild as the country they inhabit. A little beyond the Minnis stands the church, on a hill, and not far from thence the court lodge, at the north-west boundary of the parish. Two fairs are held here annually, for horses and cattle.

When the survey of Domesday was taken, Stelling constituted part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Bayeux, under the title of whose lands it is there entered.

Upon the disgrace of that ecclesiastic his estates were confiscated to the crown, and the succession lost, until it came to the family of the Haut's, when, in the reign of Edward I., William de Haut possessed it, and resided at Wadenhall, in the adjoining parish of Waltham. In his descendants it continued till the close of the reign of Henry VI., when William Haut, of Bishopsborne, conveyed it to Humphrey Stafford, duke of Buckingham, whose grandson, Edward, being beheaded, under Henry VIII., this manor, with his other estates, went to the crown. They so continued till the accession of Philip and Mary, when the latter granted this property to Edward Fynes lord Clinton, who conveyed it to Mr. Henry Herdson. By his grandson, Francis, it was alienated to his uncle, John, and by him it was devised to his nephew, Sir Basil Dixwell, bart., of Tirlingham. The latter dying, in 1641, Martin Dixwell, esq. proved his heir and successor, when the title became extinct, and his son, Sir Basil, by a fresh creation, died possessed of this manor, under Charles II. It was afterwards alienated to Sir Thomas Hardres, bart., of Hardres court, whose grandson, Sir William, dying, in 1764, devised it by will to his widow, Frances, daughter and coheir of Thomas Corbet, of Shropshire. On the death of the latter, in 1783, it became vested in her heirs, being four sisters, or their representatives; namely, the Rev. James Charles Beckingham, son of Catherine, her sister, who possessed one fourth part; Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Denward, who owned another fourth part; and Ignatius Geohegan, esq., in right of his wife Antonia, and Ignatius Geohegan, their son, all since deceased. By the death of the latter, his fourth part devolved to his sister, afterwards married to Baron Montesquieu, and William Hougham, jun., esq., of Barton place, only son of his sister Hannah, deceased, wife of William Hougham, esq., of Barton, by whom this estate was possessed in undivided shares.

The Manor of Holyrood, otherwise *Fryerne Park*, lies in the eastern part of this parish, and, in the reign of Edward III. is said to have been held by the abbot of Langdon, by knight's service, which the heirs of William de Holte had previously held in Holyrood of the heirs of William de Auberville. This manor continued in the monastery till its dissolution, when it fell to the crown, and was granted by Henry VIII. to the Heyman's; who sold it to the Hewytt's. The demesnes called the Park, afterwards became the property of John Whitfield, esq. of Canterbury, and then passed to William Philpot, gent. of Sandwich. This manor is now the property of the Earl of Guildford.

No *parochial charities* exist here; the poor constantly relieved are about fifteen, casually ten.

Stelling is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Bridge.

The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is capacious and handsome, having a square tower at the north-west corner, while some good stained glass remains in the east window. The church of Stelling has always been considered as a chapel to that of Upper Hardres, the rector being inducted to that living, with the chapel of Stelling annexed. It is included in the valuation of that rectory in the king's books. In 1588, there were ninety-two communicants, and in 1640, ninety.

The parish of Stelling, is, in the last census of the population, ranked as part of the hundred of Stowting; we have, however, followed Hasted, who places it in this hundred of Loningborough. In 1821, it contained fifty-three dwellings; and from the census of the population then taken, by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 163, females 132, making a total of 295 souls.

Eleham, or as it is sometimes called, *Elham*, is the next parish south-eastward from Stelling. At the time of the Saxons, it was written both *Ulcham*, *Œlham*, *Alham*, and in Domesday, *Alham*. Phillipot says, it was anciently called *Helham*, denoting its situation to have been amidst the hills; while many imagine it derived its name from the quantity of eels which the Nailbourne throws out when it begins to run. It is composed of seven boroughs, Bladbean, Boyke, Canterwood, Lyminge, Elcham town, Sibton, and Hurst.

Eleham is considered the largest parish in the eastern part of this county, extending in length from north to south, through the Nailbourn valley, about three miles and a half, and in breadth, five miles and a half; that is to say, from part of Stelling Minnis, across the valley to Eleham down and Winteridge, and from the southern part of Swingfield Minnis, up to Hairn Forstal, in Uphill, Folkestone. The village or town of Eleham is situated in the above-mentioned valley, on a rise near the side of the stream. It is healthy and pleasant, and the houses modern and well built; the inhabitants are remarkable for longevity, many living to the ages of ninety-five, and some to 105, the age of forty being considered youthful in this district. The church, with the vicarage house, is situated on the east side of the churchyard, and the court lodge at a small distance. The latter is now a mere cottage, unfit for habitation. It appears to be the remains of a much larger edifice, built of quarry stone, with small gothic windows, which are certainly very ancient; it is still called a market-town; that immunity having been obtained by Prince Edward, afterwards Edward I.

The Nailbourne, as before observed, runs along this valley northward, entering the parish southward, by the hamlet of Ottinge, and running by the town of Eleham. The soil in the valley consists of an unfertile red earth, mixed with flints, but the hills on either side extend to a wild romantic country, generally speaking, chalky. At the north-west of the parish is Eleham park, belonging to the lord of Eleham manor.

Dr. Plot observes, that *the custom of borough English* existed over some copyholds in this parish, which awarded all the lands and tenements held by the father within the borough, to the youngest son; but the existing custom now, is to give the whole estate to the eldest, who pays to the younger sons their proportions in money. At the survey of Domesday, this place formed part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Bayeux, under the general title of whose lands it so remained.

Upon the disgrace of that prelate, it was confiscated to the crown, and then granted to William de Albineto, or Albini, surnamed Pincerna, who arrived with William the Conqueror from Normandy. He was succeeded by his son, who was created earl of Arundel, in the reign of Stephen; when Alida, his daughter, conveyed it in marriage to John earl of Eu, in Nor-

mandy. His eldest son, Henry, being killed at the siege of Ptolemais, in Egypt, A.D. 1217, the property fell to Alice, his only daughter, and heir, who entitled her husband, Ralph d'Issondon, to the possession of this manor, as also to the title of earl of Eu. She dying in the reign of Henry III. it appears, from a deed in the Surrenden library, to have passed into the possession of Prince Edward, the king's eldest son; who obtained for it, as before observed, the grant of a market. It was, in the 41st of that reign, alienated to Archbishop Boniface, who, to appease the enmity he had excited in the nation, by his vast possessions, passed it away to Roger de Leyborne, who died inheriting the same. In his name it continued till Juliana de Leyborne, daughter of Thomas, became sole heir; who, on account of her immense wealth, was usually called the Infanta of Kent. Having been three times married, without issue by either of her husbands, all of whom she survived, upon her death, this manor, with her other estates, became escheated to the crown, no person being able to make a claim by direct, or even collateral alliance. It so continued till Richard II. vested it in feoffees, in trust, towards the endowment of St. Stephen's chapel, in his palace, at Westminster, which he completed, and made collegiate. The preceding year he had granted to the dean and canons this manor, among others, in mortmain, all which was confirmed by Henry IV. and VI. as well as Edward IV. the latter granting also a fair in this parish, to be held on the Monday after Palm Sunday. It so continued till the reign of Edward VI. when this college was, with all its possessions, surrendered into the king's hands; who then granted the manor to Edward lord Clinton and Saye. By the latter it was reconveyed to the crown the same year, when Henry VIII. demised it, for the term of eighty years, to Sir Edward Wotton. His son, Thomas, sold his interest in the same to Alexander Hamon, esq. of Acrise, who died in 1613, leaving two daughters, his coheirs; the youngest of whom, Catherine, married Sir Robert Lewknor, who became possessed of this property. He was succeeded by his son, Hamon Lewknor, esq. but the reversion in fee having been purchased of the crown before the expiration of the above term, ending the last year of James I., it devolved to Sir Charles Herbert, master of the Revels, who alienated it to Mr. John Aelst, merchant, of London. By the court rolls it was then

vested in Thomas Alderne, John Fisher, and Roger Jackson, esqs. who, in the year 1681, conveyed it to Sir John Williams. His daughter and sole heir, Penelope, carried it in marriage to Thomas Symonds, esq. of Herefordshire; by the heirs of whose only surviving son, Thomas Powell, esq. of Pengethley, in that county, it was sold to Sir Henry Oxendon. A court-leet and court-baron is held for this manor, which is very extensive; there is also a considerable quantity of copyhold land, and the demesnes of it are title free. There is a yearly rent charge, payable for ever, out of the revenue, amounting to £87 13 1, to the Ironmonger's company, in London.

Shottlesfield is a manor situated at the south-east boundary of this parish; the house standing partly in Liminge, at a small distance southward from the street or hamlet of the same name. In the reign of Edward II. it was the inheritance of a family of the name of Le Grubbe, some of whom had possessions at Yalding and Eythorne. Thomas le Grubbe possessed it in the 3d year of the above reign, and from him it continued down by paternal descent to John Grubbe, who, in the reign of Richard III. conveyed it by sale to Thomas Brockman, of Liminge. Henry Brockman, grandson of the latter, in the reign of Mary, alienated this property to George Fogge, esq. of Braborne; and, in the reign of Elizabeth, he sold it to one Bing, who passed it away to Mr. John Masters, of Sandwich. The manor then descended to Sir Edward Masters, of Canterbury, who, at his decease, left it to his second son, then LL.D; from whose heirs it went to Mr. Hetherington, of North Cray place, who died possessed of the estate, unmarried, in 1778. He, by will, devised it to Thomas Coventry, esq. of London, who died possessed of the property, the trustees of whose will became entitled to the same.

The Manor of Bowick, now called *Boyke*, is situated in the eastern part of this parish, in the borough of its own name. It was, in very ancient times, the residence of the Lad's, who, in several of their old evidences, were written De Lad, by which name there is an ancient farm, once reputed a manor, and still known, which, until the reign of Elizabeth, was held by this family. It is certain that they were residents at Bowick, in the reign of Henry VI.; and, in that of Edward IV. it appears, by the register of their wills in the prerogative-office, at Canterbury,

that they constantly styled themselves of Eleham. Thomas Lade, of Bowick, died possessed of this manor in 1515, as did his descendant, Vincent, in 1563. Soon after it passed by sale into the family of Nethersole; whence it was immediately afterwards alienated to the Aucher's, and then to the Wroth's. The latter, under Charles I. sold it to the Elgar's; and, after some intermission, it fell into the possession of Thomas Scott, esq. of Limings. His daughter and coheir, Elizabeth, marrying William Turner, esq. of the Friars, in Canterbury, in her own right, she became inheritrix; when her only daughter, Bridget, marrying David Papillon, esq. of Acrise, she became entitled to this manor, in which line the estate continued.

Mount and Bladbean are two manors situated upon the hills, on the opposite sides of this parish; the former near the eastern, and the latter near the western boundaries. They were anciently called *Bladbean*, otherwise *Jacob's court*, both appearing to have constituted, in the reign of the Conqueror, part of the possessions of Anschitillus de Ros, who is mentioned in Domesday as having held much land in the western part of this county, his principal manor being that of Horton, near Farningham. One of this family made a grant of the estate to the Cosenton's, of Cosenton, in Aylesford, to hold of their barony of Ros, as of their manor of Horton, before mentioned, by knight's service. In the reign of Edward II. Sir Stephen de Cosenton obtained a charter of *free warren* for his lands here. He was the son of Sir William de Cosenton, and frequently denominated of Cosenton, and sometimes of Mount Eleham. His descendant, dying, in the reign of Henry VIII. without male issue, his three daughters married to Duke, Wood, and Alexander Hamon, esqs. they became his coheirs, and shared this large inheritance. On a division of the same, the manor of Bladbean, otherwise Jacob's court, was allotted to Mr. Wood, and Mount to Mr. Alexander Hamon.

The manor of Bladbean, or Jacob's Court, was afterwards alienated, by the heirs of Wood, to Thomas Houghton, esq., of St. Martin's, near Canterbury, who, by will, in 1591, gave this manor, with its rents and services, to Elizabeth, his daughter; she married Thomas Wilde, esq. of St. Martin's, whose grandson, Colonel Dudley Wilde, devised this estate, in 1653, to his widow, from whom it went, by sale, to the Hill's. In 1683, Mr. James

Hill passed it away to Mr. Daniel Woollet, whose children divided this estate among themselves; a few years after which John Brice became, by purchase, at different times, the sole possessor. He, in 1729, conveyed the property, by sale, to Mr. Valentine Sayer, of Sandwich, who died possessed of the same in 1766, when the heirs of his eldest son, Mr. George Sayer, of Sandwich, became the next claimants.

The manor of MOUNT, now called *Mount Court*, which was allotted, as above mentioned, to Alexander Hamon, continued down to his grandson, of the same name, who died possessed of the estates, in 1613. He left two daughters, his coheirs, the youngest of whom, Catherine, carried the property in marriage to Robert Lewknor, in whose descendants it continued till Robert Lewknor, esq., his grandson, in 1666, alienated the same, with other lands in this parish, to Thomas Papillon, esq., of Lubenham, in Leicestershire. His descendant, Thomas Papillon, esq., of Acrise, ultimately became the possessor of this manor.

LADWOOD is another manor in this parish, lying at the eastern boundary, on the hills, near Acrise. It was written in old evidences *Ladswood*, and the conjecture is that previous to its being converted into a farm of arable land, and a house built thereon, it was a wood belonging to the family of the Lads', resident at Bewick. In the reign of Edward III. it continued uninterruptedly in the family of the Rolfe's, till the reign of Charles II., soon after which it was alienated to the Williams's. In that name it remained till Penelope, daughter of Sir John Williams, carried it in marriage to Thomas Symonds, esq., the heirs of whose only surviving son, Thomas Symonds Powell, esq., sold it to David Papillon, esq., in whose descendants it continued.

THE MANOR OF CANTERWOOD, as appears by a manuscript about the time of Henry VIII., was the estate of Thomas de Garwinton, of Welle, in the eastern part of this parish, who lived in the reigns of Edward II. and III. His great grandson, William, dying, Joan, his kinswoman, marrying Richard Haut, was, in the reign of Henry IV., found to be his heir, not only as regarded this manor but much more land in these parts. Their son, Richard Haut, leaving an only daughter and heir, Margery, she carried this manor in marriage to William Isaak. It appears from the court rolls that the family of the Hale's then became possessed of this estate, in which line it continued till the reign of

Elizabeth. It then went, by sale, to the Manwood's, from which name it was alienated to Sir Robert Lewknor, whose grandson, Robert, in 1666, sold it, with other lands in this parish, already mentioned, to Thomas Papillon, esq., of Lubenham, in Leicestershire.

Oxroad, now denominated *Ostrude*, is a manor situated a little distance eastward of North Eleham, having anciently had owners of the same name. Andrew de Oxroad held it of the Countess of Eu, in the reign of Edward I., by knight's service, as appears by records in the Remembrancer's office. In the reign of Edward III., John, son of Simon Attewelle, held it of the earl of Eu, by like service, after which the Hencles possessed it from the reign of Henry IV. to that of Henry VIII. Isabel, daughter of Thomas Hencle, carried it in marriage to John Beane, and in his descendants it continued till the reign of Charles I., when it was alienated to Mr. Daniel Shatterden, descended from the Shatterden's in Great Chart, which place they had possessed for many generations. It continued some time in his descendants and was sold to the Adams's, in which name it remained till the heirs of Randall Adams passed it away, by sale, to the Papillon's, of Acrise, in whose family it continued.

Hall, otherwise Wingmere, is a manor situated in the valley at the northern boundary of this parish, next to Barham, wherein some part of the demesne lands lie. It is held of the manor of Eleham, and had most probably once owners of the name of Wigmere, as it was originally spelt, and of which name there was a family in east Kent; while in many ancient evidences mention is made of William de Wigmere, and others of this name.

The family of Brent, however, appears to have possessed this manor for several generations, in which line it continued till Thomas Brent, of Wilsborough, dying, in 1612, it passed into the family of the Dering's, of Surrenden. In the reign of James I. Edward Dering, gent., of Egerton, eldest son of John Dering, esq., of Surrenden, who had married the sister of Thomas Brent, became possessed of this estate, and his only son and heir, Thomas Dering, gent., in 1649, alienated the same to William Cod, gent., of Watringbury, who died, in 1708, possessed of this manor in fee in gavelkind. Upon the demise of the latter, the property went to the representatives of his two

Aunts, Jane, wife of Boys Ore, and Anne, wife of Robert Wood, who, in 1715, by a fine levied, entitled Thomas Manley, and Elizabeth, his wife, to the possession of this manor for their lives, and afterwards to them in fee in separate moieties. Thomas Manley dying, in 1716, by will gave his moiety to John Pollard, on whose death it went, by the limitation in the above will, to Joshua Monger, whose only daughter and heir, Rachael, carried it in marriage to her husband, Arthur Pryór. They, in 1750, joined in the sale of this estate to Mr. Richard Halford, gent., of Canterbury, when the other *moiety* of this manor seems to have been devised by Elizabeth Manley to her nephew, Thomas Kirkby, whose sons, John and Manley Kirkby, joined, in the above year, in the conveyance of the manor to Mr. Richard Halford, above mentioned, who thus became possessed of the whole. He was third son of Richard Halford, clerk, rector of the adjoining parish of Liminge, descended from the Halford's, of Warwickshire, as appears by his will in the prerogative-office of Canterbury. He died possessed of this property in 1766, leaving, by Mary, his wife, daughter of Mr. Christopher Creed, of Canterbury, one son, Richard Halford, gent., of Canterbury, and two daughters; Mary, married to Mr. John Peirce, surgeon, of the same city, and Sarah. In 1794, Mr. Peirce purchased the shares of Mr. Richard and Mrs. Sarah Halford, and became the owner of this manor.

The Manor of Clavertigh is situated on the hills at the north-west boundary of this parish, next to Liminge, which anciently belonged to the abbey of Bradsole, or St. Radigund, near Dover. It continued vested in that monastery till the reign of Henry VIII., when it was surrendered to the king, who granted the site of this priory, with all its lands and possessions, of which this manor formed a part, to Archbishop Cranmer, who, during the same reign, reconveyed the estate of Clavertigh, with lands called Monken lands, to the crown, after which this property was granted to Sir James Hales, one of the justices of the common pleas, to hold *in capite*. He, in the reign of Edward VI. passed this estate to Peter Heyman, esq., one of the gentlemen of the king's bedchamber, who appears to have received a fresh grant from the crown during that reign. Peter was succeeded by his eldest son, Ralph Heyman, esq., of Sellindge, whose descendant, Sir Peter Heyman, bart., alienated the manor of

Clavertigh, to Sir Edward Honywood, of Evington, in whose descendants it continued.

Eleham is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of its own name.

The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is large and handsome, and contains a memorial to the memory of John Somner, gent., son of the learned William Somner, of Canterbury. In the chancel are brass plates, bearing the names of Michael Pyx, of Folkestone, mayor, and Nicholas Moore, gent., of Bettenham, in Cranbrooke, who died at Wingmer, in 1577. In the centre aisle is a memorial of Capt. William Symons, A.D. 1674; and a brass plate to John Hill, dean and vicar of Eleham, who died in 1730. In this church a lamp was formerly kept burning, called the light of Wyngmer, presented prior to the year 1468, probably by one of the owers of that manor.

The church of Eleham was given by Archbishop Boniface, lord of the manor of Eleham, and patron of this church; appendant to the same, at the instance of Walter de Merton, then canon of St. Paul's, and afterwards bishop of Rochester, to the college founded by the latter in 1263, at Maldon, in Surrey. The Archbishop, in 1268, appropriated this church to the college whensoever it should become vacant by the death or cession of the rector, saving a reasonable vicarage of thirty marks to be endowed by him; whereto the warden of the college should present to the rector and his successors a fit vicar as often as it should become vacant; the latter to be nominated by the primate, otherwise the archbishop and his successors should have the free disposal of the vicarage.

This vicarage is valued in the king's books at £20, being the original endowment of thirty marks, and the yearly tenths at £2, the clear yearly certified value being £59 15 2. In 1640 it was valued at £100 per annum, there being 600 communicants. It is now of the yearly value of £150.

All the lands in this parish pay tithes to the rector or vicar, excepting Parkgate farm, Farthingsole farm, and Eleham Park wood, all belonging to the lord of Eleham manor, which claim a *modus*, in lieu of tithes, of twenty shillings yearly, paid to the vicar. The manor farm of Clavertigh, belonging to the Honywood's, and a parcel of lands called Mount Bottom, claim a like *modus* in lieu of tithes.

In the year 1821, this parish contained 187 houses; and at the same period, when the census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 591, females 577, making a total of 1168 souls.

Acrise is the next parish south-eastward of Eleham, written in Domesday, *Acres*, deriving its name from the high situation it occupies, and the numerous oak-trees with which it abounds. It is vulgarly called, by the common people, Awkeridge, by which name it frequently appears in deeds and wills. The north-east part, wherein the manor of Brandred partly lies, is in the hundred of Folkestone, and the remaining portion in the hundred of Loningborough.

Acrise is an obscure parish, and, like all the others on these hills, although poor, is extremely healthful. It stands for the most part on elevated ground, in a wild, dreary, and flinty country, amidst frequent and very steep hills, being rather more than two miles long and about one broad; and the south-west part encompassed by a large grove of trees.

Acrise court is a respectable brick mansion, apparently built in the reign of Henry VII., contiguous to which, on the north side of the church is a small hamlet, called *Acrise green*. The parsonage is sitated about one mile from the church, and at some little distance is Hode, the house of which is built of stone, with arched windows and doors.

At the northern boundary of this parish is the hamlet of *Brandred*, and in the vicinity some coppice wood. The large heath, called Swinfield Minnis, extends along the eastern side of the parish, part of which is within the bounds of the same: the soil is mostly red earth, mixed with flints, being very barren and unproductive.

An annual fair is held at this place upon the Tuesday after the 10th of October.

At the general survey of Domesday, Acrise formed part of the possessions of the bishop of Bayeux, under the title of whose lands it was entered in that survey. Upon the disgrace of that prelate, and the confiscation of his property, the seignory of this manor appears to have been granted to the before-mentioned Anschitil de Ros, *mesne* tenant of the same, who thenceforward became lord *Paramount*, holding it immediately of the crown

in capite. Of his descendants this manor was again held by the family of the Cosenton's, or Cossington's, as the name was sometimes spelt, who resided here, as well as at Cosenton in Aylesford.

This manor of ACRISE, otherwise *Okeridge,* was granted to the latter family to hold of the barony of Ross, as of the manor of Horton Kirkby, which appears to have been the principal manor of that barony. Sir Stephen de Cosenton possessed it in the reign of Edward III. and obtained a charter of *free warren* for his lands in Acrise, Cossyngtone, and Suthbertone. It continued in his descendants till the reign of Henry VIII., when Thomas Cosenton, esq. dying without male issue, his three daughters became his coheirs, and shared a large inheritance; when, upon the division, this manor came to Elizabeth, the youngest daughter, who married Alexander Hamon, esq. He resided at Acrise place, as did his grandson, Alexander Hamon, esq., who died possessed of this property, in 1613, leaving two daughters, his coheirs. Elizabeth married Sir Edward Boys, of Fredville; and Catherine, Sir Robert Lewknor, when to the latter he bequeathed this manor and estate. His descendants continued to possess the same till Robert Lewknor, his grandson, alienated it, in 1666, to Thomas Papillon, esq., of Lubenham, in Leicestershire, as before mentioned.

The family of Papillon or Papillion, seems to have been of great notoriety in this kingdom; as, in very early times, one Toraldus de Papillion was witness to a deed of confirmation from William the Conqueror to the church of Durham. William Papillon was one of the faithful servants of Edward I.; Thomas Papillon, of Lubenham, who purchased this manor, was an eminent merchant of London, for which city he served in parliament, as he had previously done for Dover; he bore for his arms, *Azure a chevron or, between three butterflies or papillons argent.* He was one of the Mercer's Company, to which he bequeathed £1000. His first wife was Anne, eldest daughter of William Joliffe, esq. of Staffordshire, by whom he had a son, David. He married, secondly, Susan Henshaw, by whom he had a son, Philip, and three daughters. David Papillon, the eldest, sat in parliament for New Romney, as also for Dover; he died in 1762, leaving, by Mary, daughter of Timothy Keyser, esq., a son, David, and five daughters; David married Bridget, daughter of William

Turner, of the White Friars', Canterbury, by whom he had seven children. Thomas, born 1757; Philip, rector of Eythorne; William, also in orders, who married the daughter of the Rev. William Drake; John Rawsterne, vicar of Tunbridge; and George, Elizabeth, and Sarah. He, secondly, espoused Hesther, daughter of the Rev. Dr. Curties, of Sevenoke, and by her, who died in 1782, he had Thomas Papillon, who possessed this manor, and married Anne, daughter of Henry Pelham, esq., both of whom resided at Acrise place.

Brandred is a manor in the north-east part of this parish, having within its boundaries a hamlet of the same name, which, at the survey of Domesday, seems to have been part of the possessions of the canons of St. Martin's priory, in Dover, under the description of which it is thus entered: "*The land of Brandet pays twenty shillings and sixpence to St. Martin in an alms.*" And a little below under the same title of their possessions: "*Among the common land of St. Martin, there are, among others, one hundred acres of land, at Brand, which acquit themselves, that is are free from payment of custom and scot.*"

This manor continued part of the possessions of the church and priory of St. Martin's, above mentioned, till its dissolution in the reign of Henry VIII., when it was suppressed, and went to the crown. Shortly after the king granted the site of the priory, with all lands and possessions, in exchange to Archbishop Cranmer, in whose successors they have continued ever since; his grace the archbishop of Canterbury being entitled to the inheritance of the same.

In the hamlet of Brandred is an estate, the house of which, although now only a farm, was, in the reign of Elizabeth, the property and residence of the Marsh's, descended from those of Marton, in East Langdon. It thus continued down to T. Marsh, of Brandred, who died in 1664, leaving, by Anne, daughter of Thomas Nethersole, of Nethersole, in Wimlingswold, a son, John, who, in 1665, removed thither, and in whose descendants it continued down to John Marsh, esq., of Salisbury, and afterwards of Nethersole.

Acrise is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Eleham. The church, dedicated to St. Martin, is but small, consisting of one aisle and a chancel, in the latter of which is the figure of a woman in

brass to the memory of Mary, wife of Peter Heyman; and another to Alexander Hamon, esq. A monument also exists for William Turner, esq., late of Gray's inn, who married Anna Maria, daughter of Thomas Papillon. There are also many achievements of the Papillon family round the aisle.

This church was granted, about the reign of Henry II., by William Cosenton, lord of the manor of Acrise, to the priory of Leeds, to which the patronage afterwards belonged, but it never was appropriated; and Archbishop Baldwin, in the above reign, granted out of the same to the priory an annual pension of forty shillings. In this state the patronage continued till the dissolution, when it devolved to the crown, in which it has remained. The above-mentioned pension has not been paid since the dissolution of the priory.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at £7, and the yearly tenths at 14s. In 1558 it was valued at £80, the communicants being sixty-eight. In 1640 there were the same number of communicants, and the value at that time was £100.

Padlesworth, usually called *Palsworth*, is the next parish southward from Acrise; the manors of Liminge and Eleham both claiming within this parish.

Padlesworth is a lonely and unfrequented parish situated amidst hills, and very circumscribed; the church standing in the centre, near three or four mean cottages, which form the village, the inhabitants of which are extremely poor. The soil is much the same as that of Acrise, but if possible more barren.

The manor of Padlesworth was anciently part of the estate of the celebrated family of the Criol's, one of whom, Bertram de Criol, died possessed of the same in the reign of Edward I., whose two sons dying without issue, Joan, their sister, became possessed of this manor, with the rest of her brother's inheritance. This she carried in marriage to Sir Richard de Rokesle, who left two daughters his coheirs, of whom Agnes, the eldest, married Thomas de Poynings, and entitled her husband to the possession of this manor. He died in the reign of Edward III., and in his descendants it continued down to Robert de Poynings, who lived in the reign of Edward IV., and was summoned to parliament, by whom it was passed away, by sale, to Sir Thomas Fogge, of Repton. In his descendants it remained till the reign of

James I., when it was alienated to the Dingley's, whose heirs conveyed it to Thomas Talbot, esq., who sold it to Mr. Ralph Harwood, from which name it passed, by sale, in 1748, to Mr. James Hammond, of Dover; on the death of the latter, in 1790, it was sold by his heirs to Thomas Papillon, of Acrise. A court-baron is held for this manor, which extends into the parishes of Liminge, Swingfield, Capel, and Newington.

There are no *charitable donations* to this parish, the poor constantly or casually relieved are not more than one or two.

Padlesworth is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury, and *deanery* of Eleham. The church, dedicated to St. Oswald, is the lowest and smallest in the county. It is extremely ancient, and built of large flint stones, consisting of one very small aisle, and a still smaller chancel. There is no ceiling to the roof; and the eastern window, the only one, being boarded up, the structure is quite dark at noonday; and between the aisle and chancel there is a circular arch with Saxon ornaments. This fabric has no steeple or turret, but at the west end is one bell. On either side of the aisle is a very small circular door, and many curious specimens of Saxon architecture.

This church has always been esteemed as a chapel to the church of Liminge, in the value of which it is included in the king's books: the rector of Liminge being instituted and inducted to that rectory, with the chapels of Stanford and Padlesworth annexed. In 1588 there were eighty-six communicants, and in 1640 the same number.

In 1821, this parish contained nine dwellings; and, at the same period, when the census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males twenty-four, females twenty, making a total of forty-four souls.

THE HUNDRED OF HEANE.

This parish lies next, in an eastern direction, to that of Folkestone; written in Domesday *Hen*, whereas, in the 7th of Edward I., it was spelt as at present, at which period the primate of Canterbury was lord of the same.

It contains within its boundaries the parishes of Postling and Saltwood, with the churches of those parishes, as well as a small portion of the parish of Lymne, the church of which stands in another hundred.

Postling is the next parish eastward from that of Newington, being written *Postlinges* in Domesday, and in later records both *Postlinge* and *Postling*.

The Parish of Postling is unpleasantly situated at the foot of the chalk hills, which constitute its northern boundaries. The village, with the church contiguous, lies very wet and swampy, from the number of springs rising near it. At a small distance is a farm, called the Pent; and lower down, another, called Shrine; both belonging to Sir Edward Knatchbull, bart. In the eastern part is Postling Lees, being a grass common of about sixty acres. The inhabitants of all the houses in this parish, with the exception of those of the Essent and Postling Court, are entitled to pasturage on the said common, at the proportion of one cow to an acre and a half of land. Round the upper part of this district are several houses, one being the parsonage; at the corner of which is Postling Vents, where there is much coppice wood. The parish is about three miles either way, the soil of the upper or northern portion being healthy, but the remainder of a stiff clay, generally very wet.

Under the hills above the church rise those springs which form the head of that branch of the river Stour called the Old Stour, to distinguish it from that rising at Lenham. The spring in question issues from the rock at five or six apertures, and is commonly called the river head. It is a constant fountain, and never fails in the driest seasons, flowing through this parish

to Stanford, and thence, under a bridge, to Westenhanger, and so on to Ashford and Canterbury. Lambarde states that there was a park, of which at present there is no vestige remaining. The manor of Postling, according to the survey of Domesday, was partly in possession of Hugo de Montfort, under the general title of whose lands it was entered.

Upon the voluntary exile of Robert de Montfort (his grandson, so frequently mentioned,) in the reign of Henry I. this manor, among the rest of his possessions, came into the king's hands. It was, soon after, granted to Philip de Columbers, or de *Columbariis*, as the name was then written in Latin, a family of great eminence, descended from Ranulph de Columbers, frequently mentioned in Domesday as holding lands in this county. Philip de Columbers, grandson of Philip above mentioned, obtained, in the reign of Henry III. license of *free warren*, within this manor, the church of which he gave to the canons of St. Radigund's. His son, of the same name, confirmed the above gift to that abbey, and, at the same time, granted the tithes of seventeen acres of land, which he had enclosed in the park. He died in the reign of Edward I. leaving his brother, John, his heir, who held it by knight's service of Dover castle, being part of those fees which made up the barony called the Constabularie. He also died in the above reign, having received summons to Parliament. His son, Philip de Columbers, died in the reign of Edward III. possessed of this manor jointly with Eleanor, his wife, who then succeeded to the same, and died possessed of it the following year. James de Audely then succeeded as heir, who passed it away to John de Delves, of Delves hall, in Staffordshire, who constituted one of the retinue and an esquire to the above-named James de Audely, baron of Heleigh, and attended him in the wars in France. By the services which he rendered at the battle of Poictiers, part of Lord Audley's arms were added to his own. He was also one of the squires to Edward III. knighted, and made a justice of the King's Bench; dying in the reign of Edward III., and appears to have vested this manor by will to trustees, who sold it the same year to Sir John Fitzalan de Arundel, generally called Sir John Arundel. The latter was third son of Richard, second earl of Arundel, by Eleanor, his second wife, daughter of Henry Plantagenet, earl of Lancaster, and became Lord Maltravers.

This nobleman was lost off the coast of Ireland, in the reign of Richard II. His grandson, John Fitzalan, lord Maltravers, in the reign of Henry V. by the death of his kinsman, Thomas earl of Arundel, succeeded to that title, as nearest male heir; which dignity was confirmed to him by Parliament. This manor continued to descend through the earls of Arundel down to Henry, who alienated it to Sir Anthony Aucher, of Otterden. He dying in the reign of Philip and Mary, was succeeded by John Aucher, esq. of Otterden place, his eldest son, who left, by his first wife, an only daughter and heir, Anne. She entitled her husband, Sir Humphrey Gilbert, to the possession of the same; who sold this manor, in the reign of Elizabeth, to Thomas Smith, esq. of Westenhanger, commonly called the Customer. His grandson, Sir Thomas Smith, K.B. was, in 1628, created viscount Strangford of the kingdom of Ireland; and his son, Philip, viscount Strangford, conveyed this manor, with other estates, to trustees, for the payment of his debts. They, in the reign of Charles II. alienated the property to Thomas Gomeldon, esq. of Sellindge; whose son, Richard, dying, Meliora, his sister, carried the estate in marriage to Thomas Stanley, esq. of Lancashire. On the attainder of the latter for treason, in 1715, it became forfeited to the crown, during their joint lives, and was by the commissioners for forfeited estates, sold for that term to Sir William Smith. On their death, the possession and inheritance returned to their son, Richard Stanley, esq. who, being insane, a commission of lunacy was granted, when William Dicconson, who had married his sister, Meliora, was appointed to superintend over this property; who, on account of this manor and other estates being heavily encumbered with debts, obtained an Act, in 1750, to sell some part for the discharge of the same. The result was, that this manor of Postling became alienated the same year to the trustees of Sir Windham Knatchbull, bart. then a minor. He died possessed of the estate in 1763, unmarried, and was succeeded in the title and property by his uncle and heir, Sir Edward Knatchbull, bart. of Hatch; whose son, of the same name, and member for the county, then became inheritor of this manor.

HENEWOOD, now called the *Honywood Farm*, is an estate in the southern part of this parish, formerly accounted a manor. It was, in very early times, the property and residence of the

family of the Honywood's, anciently written Henewood, which name they assumed. It appears, from the leger-books of Horton priory, that Edmund de Henewood, then resident at this place, was a liberal benefactor to the same; however, the family subsequently quitted this district for their seat of Sene, in Newington, near Hythe. At length, John Honywood, esq. of Sene, became possessed of the property, and having twice married, devised the estate to his eldest son by his second wife, Robert, of Postling; in whose descendants it continued down to John le Mot Honywood, esq. of Marks hall, in Essex. He having departed this life in 1693, by his will, devised it to his kinsman, Robert, afterwards of Marks hall, whose grandson, Richard, dying an infant, in 1758, the possession came to his only surviving uncle, Philip. On the demise of the latter, in 1785, without issue, the estate passed by will to Filmer Honywood, esq. in which name it continued. There are no *parochial charities* in this district; the poor constantly relieved are about twenty, and casually, forty.

Postling is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Eleham.

The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is very ancient, consisting of one aisle and a chancel, with a low pointed tower at the west end, having no ceiling. At the north-east corner of the chancel, is an ancient tomb, bearing no record; and, near the north wall, a small stone is fixed, having an inscription in old capitals, signifying that the church was dedicated to St. Mary, on the 19th of September, being the festival of St. Eusebius.

The church of Postling was anciently appendant to this manor, and so continued till Philip de Columbers, in the reign of Henry III. gave it to the abbot and convent of St. Radigund; which gift was confirmed, in 1260, by that king, and also by Philip de Columbers.

The church was appropriated to the above abbey before the reign of Richard II.; and, in that state it remained, with the advowson of the vicarage, till the dissolution of the abbey, in the reign of Henry VIII. when it was granted, with the site and all its possessions, to the archbishop, in exchange for other lands. By the primate it was subsequently conveyed back to the crown; but, in the deed, among other exceptions, were those of all churches and advowsons of vicarages, by virtue of which,

the appropriations of the church of Postling, together with the advowson of the vicarage, remained part of the possessions of the see of Canterbury, his grace being now entitled to the inheritance of the same, as well as the presentation to the vicarage.

It was valued in the king's books at £6 8 1½, the yearly tenths at 12s. 9½d.; and, in 1588, at £40, when there were sixty-six communicants. In 1640, the value was £50, there being the same number of communicants.

For the improvement of this vicarage, Archbishop Sancroft, in 1688, granted a new lease of the parsonage for twenty-one years, determinable with the incumbency, without fine, and an improved rental of £4 per annum, to answer the profits of the future fine to the revenues of his see. This was for the exclusive benefit of the vicar and his successors, whereby the value of the same was doubled, the vicar paying £10 yearly to the archbishop, in lieu of fines, and the lease being renewable to every incumbent vicar.

In 1821, there were twenty-three houses in this parish; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of the inhabitants were as follow: males 89, females 86, making a total of 175 souls.

Saltwood is the next parish westward from Newington, anciently called in Latin, De Bosco Salso, or Saltwood, from its approximation to the sea. During the Saxon heptarchy, it was written *Sealtwde;* in Domesday, *Salteode;* and in other writings, both *Saltwode* and *Saltwood,* as at present.

This district is very healthful, having a fine opening between the southern hills towards the sea. The village stands in the middle, on Saltwood green; the church and parsonage being at a small distance, and the castle about a quarter of a mile from the same. The ruins of the latter are spacious and magnificent; a great portion of the walls still remaining, being of an oval form; within which is a broad and deep moat, now dry.

The inner gatehouse, now used as a farm, is particularly grand, having two fine circular towers on either side, beautifully vaulted and arched in every direction with Ashlar stone. Over the moat was once a drawbridge; and, in the arch of the gate-

Engraved by H. Adlard

SANDLANDS.

way, appears a hollow, through which the portcullis used to be lowered, the major part of this edifice having been rebuilt by Archbishop Courtenay, in the reign of Richard II. On the inner side of the moat, is a very strong wall, with towers and bastions; and, in the chapel, are some fine ruins, beautifully vaulted beneath. There is also a spacious hall, and large banquetting-room, with many other grand apartments, as well as numerous offices of an inferior description. Gale, in his commentary on the Itinerary of Antoninus, says, that upon this spot stood a fortress, built by the Romans, for the defence of the port of Hythe, being one of those edifices necessary for the protection of this part of the coast, in the time of the early Saxons.

To this castle, according to the above authority, there was a *prætorian* way leading from *Durolevum*, and another from *Durovernum*, or Canterbury, which communicated with Stutfall castle, crossing the former at the village of Leming. This paved way is still visible over the hill from Hythe, in the direction of the castle; and, about a mile farther, towards the Stone street on the hill, behind Beechborough, are the remains of a Roman camp, and several tumuli.

In 1580, an earthquake threw down a considerable portion of this magnificent structure. The western part of the parish is very sandy, and covered with coppice wood: and contiguous, the park is extensive, having constituted part both of Westenhanger and Saltwood. The park-house of the former still remains, being in the vicinity of an estate, called *Great Sandling*, which has, for some time, belonged to the family of the Deedes', and lastly to William Deedes, esq. of Hythe, who built a mansion on part of the property. The parish is watered by two streams, one called the Slabrook, rising from different springs near Postling Vents, under the hills, contiguous to Brockhall bushes; when, after uniting, it flows across this parish, and thence into the sea, west of Hythe. The other, called the Saltwood brook, runs from beneath Beechborough hill, under Saltwood castle, the extensive moat of which, though now dry, it once supplied, and thence flows south-eastward on the other side of Hythe, into the sea, with the former. The surface of this district is hilly, especially the southern part, at the boundary of which, the quarry or sand hills cross the same from east to west, a very small part of the town of Hythe being

situated therein. About 130 years ago, an anchor was ploughed up in the valley between Saltwood castle and Hythe; from which circumstance, it appears probable, the sea once flowed up much higher than at present.

In the reign of Elizabeth, a family, named Estday, resided at Saltwood, in this parish, which was also formerly a manor, called Kellows, the precise situation of which has been long unknown.

Saltwood was given, in the year 1036, together with Hethe, to Christ church, Canterbury, in the presence of King Canute, by one of the princes of England, named Haldene. At the taking of the survey of Domesday, in 1080, this place was held of the archbishop by knight's service, by Hugo de Montfort, who repaired the castle of Saltwood, which is said to have been first erected by Eseus, or Oisc, king of Kent, who succeeded his father, Hengist, in the year 488. Robert de Montfort, grandson of Hugo, having favored the title of Robert Curthose, in opposition to Henry I. in order to avoid the consequences, submitted to voluntary exile, when all his estates devolved to the crown. It subsequently appears to have passed into the possession of Henry de Essex, baron of Ralegh, in Essex, who was constable of England, and standardbearer to the king. That nobleman rebuilt this castle and resided here, but, during a skirmish in Wales, having, through cowardice, forfeited all his possessions, the king held this fortress as an escheat to the crown. Archbishop Becket accused Henry II. of having violated the privileges of his see, by seizing on a fief that was his property, and although, in the year 1170, a compromise was entered into between the above monarch and that haughty churchman, this manor and castle continued vested in the crown till the 1st year of King John, when it was restored by that prince to the archiepiscopal see, to be held of him *in capite*. From the above period it became one of the palaces of the archbishops; it also appears, from the patent rolls, that Edward II. was lodged in this castle, and Archbishop Courtenay, who came to the see in the reign of Richard II. beautified and enlarged the structure at a vast expense, when he also enclosed a park round this demesne. In the reign of Henry V Archbishop Chichely made this castle his residence; and, in the reign of Henry VIII. Archbishop Warham demised it, for a term, to Sir Edward Nevil.

The magnificence and grandeur of this place was ultimately the occasion of its being lost to the church, since Cranmer, dreading the envy occasioned by his large possessions, conveyed this castellated mansion, among other property, in exchange, to the king, who granted the whole, the same year, to Thomas Cromwell, earl of Essex. On the attainder of the latter, they again reverted back to the crown; where they remained till the reign of Edward VI. who granted them to John Dudley, earl of Warwick, to hold *in capite*. By that nobleman these estates were, with the acquiescence of Joan, his wife, reconveyed to the king, in exchange for other property; after which, they were given to Edward Fynes, lord Clinton, to hold by the same service; and by him this manor, castle, and park, were once more passed to the crown. In the reign of Mary, the above nobleman again possessed these estates; and, soon after, alienated the same to Mr. Thomas Broadnax, of Hythe; from whom they went to Edward Monins, of Waldershare, who dying in the reign of Elizabeth, they became vested in Mr. Reginald Knatchbull. He sold the property to one Crispe, by whom it was again passed by sale to the Knatchbull's. In the same reign, Mr. Reginald Knatchbull conveyed these estates to William Gibson, gent. of Westcliff, who passed this estate to Norton Knatchbull, esq.; and he, four years after, disposed of his interest therein to Robert Cranmer, esq. of Chevening. The last-mentioned possessor died holding the same, in 1619, leaving Anne, his sole daughter and heir, who carried the property in marriage to Sir Arthur Herrys, of Crixey, in Essex. Their eldest son, Cranmer Herrys, esq. then alienated the estates, in the reign of Charles I. to Sir William Boteler, of Texton, who resided at Saltwood castle; his brother, Sir John, then succeeded, whose grandson, Sir Philip, in 1712, sold this manor and castle to Brook Bridges, esq. of Goodneston; and his great grandson, Sir Brook Bridges, then became possessed of the same.

A court-leet and court-baron is held for the manor of Saltwood.

Brockhull, otherwise Thorne, is a manor and mansion, the venerable ruins of which, built of stone, are still visible, on the knoll of a hill close to the road, at a small distance south-westward of the church. Though the remains are but scanty, sufficient is left to show the antiquity and great extent of this

mansion, once the residence of an ancient family that derived its surname from this place. Sir Warren de Brockhull resided here under Edward I., and his grandson, Sir Thomas, left two sons, John and Thomas; the elder of whom kept his shrievalty here, in the reign of Edward III. His son, William, left two heirs, Nicholas, of Aldington, in Thurnham, and Thomas, the younger, who inherited Brockhull, and dying in 1437, was buried in the north aisle of this church. He left an only daughter and heir, Elizabeth, who carried this property in marriage to Richard Sellyng; whose son, John, leaving Joane, a sole daughter and heir, she conveyed it by marriage, in 1498, to John Tournay; in consequence of which alliance, the Tournay's have since quartered the arms of Sellyng. His descendant, Thomas, of Brockhull, died in 1592, leaving a numerous issue, when he devised this manor to Thomas Tournay, his second son, and to Thomas, his nephew, son of his eldest son, John: after which, in 1608, Thomas, the nephew, and Thomas, son of the uncle, divided this estate between them. The manor and mansion of Brockhull then went to the former, who afterwards resided at Brockhull, of which property he died possessed, in 1637. His grandson, John, afterwards alienated this property to James Brockman, esq. of Beechborough, whose grandson, James, gave it by will to the Rev. Ralph Drake, and he subsequently assumed the name of Brockman. By the last-mentioned Drake Brockman, the remains of this ancient mansion were pulled down, and the materials removed to build the bailiff's house, near Beechborough, consisting of stone, and constructed in the Gothic style. In 1768, the site was exchanged with Mr. Robert Tournay, of Hythe, for other lands upon the hills, near his seat at Beechborough, reserving the manor itself; whereof he died possessed, in 1781, when his son, James Drake Brockman, esq. succeeded. Mr. Robert Tournay, of Hythe, died, in 1789, possessed of the site and remains of the ancient mansion of Brockhull, with the adjoining demesnes; when his heirs became entitled to the succession.

Thomas Tournay, who had a portion of the divided lands, above mentioned, in 1611, built a seat, called NEW BUILDINGS, otherwise NEW BROCKHULL, where he died, in 1661, leaving a son, Thomas, who was of New Buildings, and of Hythe. The latter died in 1712, when the estate descended to Mr. Rober

Tournay, gent. of Hythe, who dying in 1789, left five sons and two daughters.

Radbrooks and Pedling are two small manors situated at the western boundary of this parish, the latter being close to the high road leading from Hythe to Ashford. They were formerly part of the possessions of the family of Browne, of Beechworth castle, and so continued till Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Thomas, of that place, under James I. conveyed them in marriage to Robert Honywood, esq. of Charing and Marks hall, in Essex, of whom she was second wife. Their eldest son, Thomas, succeeded to these manors; on whose demise, in 1666, his two sons, Thomas and John le Mot Honywood, became successively owners. On the death of the latter, this property passed by will to his kinsman, Robert Honywood; and in that family these estates descended, until they devolved by purchase to William Deedes, esq. of Sandling, who obtained the property from Sir Brook Bridges, bart. of Goodnestone. Courts-baron are held for both these manors.

Saltwood is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Eleham. The church, which, for the major part, was built under Edward III. is dedicated to Sts. Peter and Paul, being a handsome structure, consisting of two aisles and a chancel. The southern aisle is wide and spacious, the northern low and narrow. At the west end is a square tower, and in the chancel are several tombs to the memory of the Tournay's; the inscriptions being nearly obliterated; and under the chancel is a vault for that family. Here is also a brass plate, recording the name of Dame Anne Myston, who died in 1496; with three shields of arms. A memorial also exists to Robert Payne, rector, obt. A.D. 1741, and a brass plate, with half the effigies of a priest; and beneath, an inscription for John Verien, once rector of Sandhurst, but without date. Near the latter, is a large stone, once finely inlaid with brass, the whole now torn off. The north aisle was built by Margaret, wife of William Brockhull, for the burial-place of the future possessors of this manor; and, in the east window was her legend, in ancient characters, long since destroyed. There is also a very curious case of carved oak, which encloses the font.

The church of Saltwood, with the chapel of Hythe annexed

thereto, is exempt from the jurisdiction of the archdeacon, and belonged to the manor of Saltwood, till the exchange was made, as previously mentioned, in the reign of Henry VIII. By that instrument this manor was alienated by the archbishop to the king, with the exception of presentations and advowsons, the whole having since remained vested in that see, his grace continuing patron of the same.

In the time of King John, and again under Edward I. in 1280, Archbishop Peckham endowed a vicarage here, but it never was put into effect, the church having uniformly continued a rectory. It is valued in the king's books, with the chapel of Hythe, at £34, and the yearly tenths at £3 8; there are seventy-one acres of glebe land.

In 1588, there were 140 communicants, and, together with Hythe, the valuation was £120. In 1640, it was estimated at £140, the communicants being 100; and in 1742 the amount was £160 *per annum.*

The parsonage house stands westward, being contiguous to the church, having been formerly a very ancient structure, but modernised by Mr. Randolph, the rector. It occupies the knoll of a small eminence, commanding a pleasant prospect of the sea between the hills, over the intermediate country.

In 1821, this parish contained seventy-two dwellings; and, at the same period, when the census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 290, females 280, making a total of 570 souls.

THE TOWN AND PARISH OF HYTHE.

This district is within the liberty of the Cinque Ports and corporation of the town of Hythe, with part of the parish of West Hythe, within an hundred of its own name. In ancient records, it is called *Hethe*, in Domesday *Hede*, and, according to Leland, in Latin, *Portus Hithinus; Hythe* signifying, in the Saxon, a port or haven. In 1036, Halden, or Halfden, as it is sometimes written, a Saxon thane, gave Hethe and Saltwood to Christ church, Canterbury. It was then held by Earl Godwin of the archbishop by knight's service, and, after the Conquest, by Hugo de Montfort; at which period it only ranked as a borough, appendant to Saltwood manor, as appears from Domesday record.

Hythe was within the bailiwic of the archbishop, who appointed a bailiff annually to act jointly for the governing this town and liberty, which seems to have been constituted *a principal Cinque Port* by William the Conqueror, on the decay of West Hythe, previous to which, it had been accounted within the liberty of these ports. The *quota* which this port was allotted to furnish, towards the armament of the ports, was five ships and 105 men, with five boys, called *gromets*. In this manner the primate continued to appoint his bailiff, until the reign of Henry VIII. when the manor of Saltwood was exchanged with the crown for other property. From that period a bailiff continued to be appointed by the crown, until the 17th of Elizabeth, when that princess granted a charter of incorporation, by the name of *mayor and jurats and commonalty of the town and port of Hythe;* under which they are still governed. The above queen also granted to the mayor and his successor, all her bailiwic of Hythe, &c. to hold by a yearly feefarm of £3, whereby they are governed at the present time.

The right of election having been submitted to the examination of the House of Commons in the year 1710, the same was determined in the manner above described. At that period, the number of electors was only fifty, but at present there are more

than five times that number, though not more than twenty-two are residents in the town.

The mayor is chosen annually on Candlemas-day; and an antique horn and two maces are still preserved as badges of their ancient authority. The seal of the corporation represents a vessel with one mast, wherein are two men, one blowing a horn (which was probably the signal formerly used for assembling the naval force of the Cinque Ports), and two others lying on the yard-arm. The mayor and jurats are all magistrates within this town and port.

The revenues of the corporation are derived from about fifty acres of land, exclusive of beachy ground, &c.

The manor of Hythe was given by King Alfred, in the year 849, to the priory of Christ church, in Canterbury; but it was afterwards, in 1036, alienated, as before mentioned, for Helden, a prince of the Saxon line, again bestowed this demesne upon the same religious establishment, subsequent to which it reverted to the crown in the reign of Henry II.

According to that eminent antiquary, Leland, as well as other writers, Hythe once contained an abbey and four parish-churches, whereof one belonged to West Hythe, the ruins of which are still remaining, the present church being included in the number. There are, however, no traces of the other buildings, unless the stone arched doorway of a house in the High street near the library, may be supposed to have belonged to one of them. East and West Hythe were formerly united, and on the adjacent hill there are several streets regularly built, and among other dwellings of considerable size is one mansion which appears to have been the residence of the respectable family of the Deedes' through many generations.

In the reign of Henry II. this town suffered great calamities, and Earl Goodwin or Godwyne and his son, among other piratical depredations committed on this coast during their exile, carried away or destroyed all the shipping at that time lying in the haven.

In the reign of Edward I. a very gallant achievement of the inhabitants of this place stands recorded: A French fleet threatening the port, and one of their ships having landed a considerable number of soldiers, the inhabitants fell upon them with so much intrepidity that they massacred every soul; when the

crews of the other ships, perceiving the reception they were likely to encounter, made a precipitate retreat.

In the time of Richard II. the greater portion of the inhabitants was destroyed by a pestilential disorder; two hundred houses were also consumed by an accidental fire; and five ships sunk at sea, with the loss of a hundred mariners. So dreadful proved the effect of these complicated disasters, that the wretched survivors, reduced almost to despair, had formed the resolution of abandoning their desolated town, but were diverted from that intention by the generosity and munificence of Henry IV., who succeeded to the throne about that time. The monarch in question compassionating their distressed condition, gave them a charter of exemption from the duty of fitting out and maintaining for fifteen days the *quota* of five ships, with one hundred men, and five horses, whereto, as being one of the Cinque Ports, they were bound, as before mentioned.

From that period a change for the better took place, when a method was discovered of forcing large vessels out of the reach of the waves upon the beach of stones and sand, constituting the barrier of their former haven. Forts were also erected by King Henry VIII., at a certain distance near the edge of the shore, for the express purpose of protecting the trade and fisheries upon this coast. Numerous vessels were also built and launched; storehouses erected; markets and fairs established, &c. so that the trade of the town gradually revived, increasing its wealth and population to such a degree that the former state of misery was forgotten in its varied improvements and increasing prosperity.

Leland, who made his survey under Henry VIII., gives us the following description of this place: Hithe hath bene a very great towne yn lenght, and conteyned iiii paroches, that now be clene destroied, that is to say, S. Nicholas paroche, our Lady paroche, S. Michael paroche, and our Lady of West Hithe, the which ys withyn less than half a myle of Lymne hill. And yt may be well suposed that after the haven of Lymne and the great old towne ther fayled that Hithe strayt therby encresed and was yn price. Finally to cownt fro Westhythe to the place wher the substan of the town ys now, ys ii good myles yn lenght al along on the shore to which the se cam ful sumtym, but now by banking of woose and great casting up of shyngel the se is sumtyme a

quarter *dim.* a myle fro the old shore. In the time of king Edward II. ther were burned by casuelte xviii score houses and mo, and strayt followed a great pestilens, and thes ii thinges minished the towne. Ther remayn yet the ruines of the chyrches and chyrch yardes. It evidently appereth that wher the paroch chyrche is now was sumtyme a fayr abbey, &c. In the top of the churchyard ys a fayr spring, and ther by ruines of howses of office of the abbey. The havyn is a prety rode and liith meatly strayt for passage owt of Boleyn; yt croketh yn so by the shore a long, and is so bakked fro the mayne se with casting of shyngel that smaul shippes may cum a large myle towards Folkestan as in a sure gut."

According to the survey made of the port of Hythe in the 8th year of Elizabeth, there were then "a customer, controller, and searcher, their authority several: houses inhabited, 122: persons lacking habitation, ten: creeks and landing places, two; th' on called *the haven*, within the liberties: th' other called the stade without. It had of shipping, seventeen tramellers of 5 tune, seven shoters of 15, three crayers of 30, four crayers of 40; persons belonging to these crayers, and other boats, for the most part occupied in fishing, 160."

Hythe is situated near the sea-shore, at the distance of sixty-six miles south-east from London, nine from Romney, twelve from Ashford, thirteen from Dover, and twenty from the city of Canterbury. The road most frequented by persons coming directly from the metropolis, passes through Maidstone and the heart of the county of Kent, to Ashford, traversing an irregular chain of hills, which may be traced along the line of the sea-coast to its termination in the remarkable promontory called Dover Cliffs; and in another direction through Sussex, and the southern borders of Surrey, into Hampshire.

On approaching the town of Hythe from Ashford, as the road descends, the principal buildings appear to rest as on the base of a precipice, or seem as if clinging to its side and stretching out towards the margin of the sea. On the right, the extensive level of Romney marsh and its variegated patches of verdure and sterility, interspersed with small tufts of trees and brushwood, with the high hills of Sussex bounding the horizon in that direction, are finely contrasted by the charming expanse of ocean in the foreground. The neighbouring heights on the left shelter the

Drawn by G. Shepherd

Engraved by C. Bedford

THE CASTLE AND TOWN OF RYE

KENT.

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town from the keenness of the north and north-east winds, and are crowned by an assemblage of temporary buildings denominated Saltwood barracks, forming altogether a diversified and interesting prospect.

Contiguous to the western extremity of Hythe is a handsome range of substantial brick edifices, erected by government, in the years 1807 and 1808, for the reception of the Royal Staff corps, permanently stationed here, and from that circumstance, called the Staff barracks. Besides the officers' apartments, there are accommodations for about 300 men, and various comfortable rooms for married soldiers. Near the spot is also a remarkably pleasant and commodious house, occupied by the deputy quarter-master general, and commandant of this respectable corps; the whole opening, towards the south-west, being backed by the heights of Saltwood, and the barracks before mentioned.

The Kentish coast, from its vicinity to that of France, being more exposed than any other to an attack, the whole range of the shore was fortified, during the late war, with towers and batteries mounting numerous heavy cannon, intersected by a canal and military roads, and guarded by entrenchments, breastworks, redoubts, and every species of defensive preparation which might contribute to render the coast impregnable.

The most ancient military work of which any traces are still remaining in this neighbourhood, was situated on an eminence about two miles westward of Hythe. By some writers it has been called a fort, and by others a castle; though it is supposed by antiquarians to have been erected by the Emperor Theodosius, and garrisoned by Roman soldiers of the legion denominated *Turnacensis*, or from Tournay, in Flanders. By whomsoever erected, it was undoubtedly designed to protect the port of Lymne, from whence (as well as all the neighbouring district, including West Hythe, which had risen to celebrity on the destruction of that harbour,) the sea has long since withdrawn itself.

Hythe Port, which immediately succeeded to that of Lymne, was situated considerably more westward than the modern town, and formerly connected with West Hythe by a few straggling houses. As it became a place of considerable importance on account of the port being transferred thither, in like manner an event similar to that which had destroyed Lymne, progressively

reduced it to decay; so that now a few ruins only remain to indicate the place of its site, while East Hythe, as it was then called, has succeeded to all its commercial and maritime opulence and consequence.

The Parish and Jurisdiction of the Corporation of Hythe extend from the sea-shore to about midway of the ascent of the hill above the church northward; and from the bridge at the east end of the town, over the stream denominated the Saltbrook, to the distance of about a mile and a half westward. The Saltbrook, having crossed the road or street, washes the south side of the town, at a point still called the Three Gun battery, where it meets another stream, which, descending from the hills near the opposite extremity of Hythe, in like manner encompasses the south-western quarter, when both uniting fall into the military canal that intersects the town and beach.

The principal street of Hythe is capacious, perfectly level, handsomely built, and conveniently paved. Near the centre, on the north side, stands the guildhall and market-place, a commodious structure, rebuilt at the expense of the corporation, in 1794.

Hythe contains some good and spacious inns, a subscription reading-room and an excellent public library. The shops, as well as the dwellings belonging to the superior classes of inhabitants, bespeak the opulence, respectability, and commercial importance of this place. There are many pleasant houses upon ledges of the cliff above the town, commanding delightful and extensive views both of the sea and neighbouring country, as well as numerous convenient habitations appropriated for the use of strangers during the bathing season. Others are occupied by the families of officers of rank in the army stationed at this place, who greatly contribute to enliven and improve the society constantly frequenting the town of Hythe.

A little distance south-westward of Hythe church is the charitable foundation called St. Thomas's Hospital, originally founded, in 1336, by Hamo, bishop of Rochester, for five poor men and the like number of women, who may have been reduced from affluence to a state of exigency.

Each of those inmates receives a stipend amounting to about nine pounds per annum, and has the use of a comfortable apartment, with an allowance of coals, and other advantages. There are about 100 acres of land situated in the parishes of Saltwood,

Hythe, and West Hythe, appertaining to this hospital, the management whereof is intrusted to wardens appointed by the mayor and corporation, three of whom must be jurats of this town and port.

The Hospital of Saint John is another benevolent institution, situated on the south side of the High street, near the eastern extremity of the town. Its revenues are derived from fifty-four acres of land, in the parishes of Newington, Saltwood, Hythe, and West Hythe. This structure contains eight apartments; and the number and qualifications of the persons admitted are regulated by the authority and discretion of five feoffees, appointed by the deed.

Machines for the convenience of bathing are kept in that part of the town bordering on the sea-side, between which and the principal street, the military canal runs in a parallel line, its verdant banks on either side yielding a pleasant promenade.

The shelter afforded by the lofty hills from the cold north and north-east winds, as before observed, and the mildness of the seabreezes on this shore, invite a very early attendance of bathers in the spring, and encourage them to protract their stay in the neighbourhood further into the autumnal season than is usual elsewhere.

This town boasts a neat little theatre: there is also a school where upwards of 100 children are instructed according to the system of Dr. Bell, the establishment being supported by voluntary subscriptions. This place of instruction is held in a house as old as the reign of Elizabeth, the framework being of timber, with projecting windows supported by grotesque figures of men in armour, bearing shields charged with a buck, the head surmounted by huge antlers, which is the crest of the family of Beau, by whom the house was formerly inhabited.

Here are also regular seminaries of education for youth of both sexes; and chapels of the Wesleyans and Whitfieldites.

Two fairs are held yearly: on the tenth of July, for cattle and pedlary; and on the first of December, for live stock, and the exhibition of fat sheep; when premiums are awarded for such as are adjudged to excel most in symmetry and value.

There is a corn-market on Thursdays; the town being also plentifully supplied with excellent fish, butcher's meat, poultry, vegetables, fruit, &c. at reasonable prices.

The parish of Hythe is within the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Eleham. The church, dedicated to St. Leonard, stands on the side of a lofty eminence northward of the High street, and considerably elevated above the same. It consists of three aisles with a north and south transept or cross, and a tower steeple, surmounted by battlements and pinnacles, having a good clock. The building is very irregular, and appears to have been the work of different periods; the approach to the same being by a handsome flight of stone steps, for which the inhabitants were indebted to the munificence of William Glanville, esq., who represented Hythe in parliament in the year 1729.

Over the porch at the entrance is the hall, wherein the mayor and other members of the corporation are annually chosen. In the churchyard is a well of fine water; it being a remarkable circumstance that a town situated upon the verge of the sea and enclosed by sand hills, should possess the advantage of such a copious supply of that necessary element, as the springs abounding here are distinguished for their superior purity and excellence. This town has also the advantage of a supply from several conduits, which were formed by, and are kept in repair at the expense of the corporation.

The tower of the church is large, and composed of substantial masonry. It was rebuilt in 1748, at which period many other improvements and repairs were effected in the edifice. The aisle and chancel have also been paved with Portland stone, and new pewed. There are three galleries; one built by the parish in 1750; another by Hercules Baker and William Glanville, esqrs., the representatives of this town in 1734, and the third at the expense of individuals. A large and handsome brass chandelier ornaments the middle of the church; and there is a fine organ, built by Mr. England.

An air of grandeur and antiquity is observable throughout every part of this edifice. On the west side of the cross or aisle appears to have been an ancient doorway, perhaps the approach from the old abbey, supposed to have been situated near this structure. The arch above is circular, with zigzag ornaments, but the ground on the outside having risen nearly to the spring of the arch, it cannot be traced within. The chancels are of great antiquity; the pillars supporting the roof are clustered with

small pilasters of Bethersden marble, similar to those which adorn the choir of Canterbury cathedral; the arches and windows are also lofty, and produce a very noble appearance.

The south aisle becoming decayed, was taken down and rebuilt by the family of the Deedes, who have a large vault beneath for interment. In this cross are also four monuments of that family, and, over the magistrates' seat, one being a memorial of Julius Deedes, esq., thrice baron in parliament, and as often mayor of this port, and captain of the trained bands, who died in 1692.

In the east aisle is a tablet to the memory of Robert Kelway, M.A. rector of Hope and St. Mary's, ob. 1759; and one of brass to Henry Estday, gent. ob. 1610. In the north aisle a tablet records the name of Isacke Rutton, lieutenant of Sandgate castle, ob. 1683; and of Martha Masters, ob. 1614. There are also the monuments of Mr. Thomas Neve, ob. 1795; and of Capt. Robert Finnis, R. N., killed while engaging an American squadron, upon Lake Erie, the 10th Sept. 1813. In the north chancel are tombs of the Lotts'; and against the wall in the north cross is affixed the ancient helmet of one Capt. Weller. On the north side of the altar is a memento of Giles Collyns, ob. 1586; and another handsome tablet to Elizabeth Bean, and Ann, her daughter. In the south aisle lies John Collyns, thrice mayor of this town, and burgess of parliament, ob. 1597; as well as Robinson Bean, gent, ten times mayor, captain of the trained bands, and one of the barons of this port, who carried the canopy over King James II at his coronation, ob. 1703. On the pavement, is an inscription in memory of William Knight, one of the burgesses for Hythe in the first parliament of King James I., ob. 1622; and two other tablets of the same family: also an inscription in brass for John Bridgman, the last bailiff, and first mayor of this town, ob. 1581.

In a vault beneath the altar, are preserved an incredible number of human skulls and bones, the pile being twenty-eight feet in length by eight in breadth, and formerly of equal height, but reduced more than two feet, owing to the decay of the lower bones. They have been frequently noticed in history, and are said to be the mortal remains of the combatants slain in a sanguinary battle between the ancient Britons, under King Vortimer, and the Saxons, about the year 456, which encounter is recorded to have taken place on the shore between Hythe and Folkestone.

Many of the skulls are indented by deep cuts and fractures, apparently inflicted by a heavy weapon, similar to the battle-axe or gisarme. The whiteness of the bones is supposed to have been occasioned by their having remained a considerable length of time exposed upon the sea-shore. Within the vault wherein they are now deposited is the following memorandum:

"Extract from an ancient history of Britain.

"A. D. 143, in the reign of Ethelwolf, the Danes landed on the coast of Kent, near to the town of Hyta, and proceded as far as Canterbury, great part of which they burned: at length Gustavus, then governor of Kent, raised a considerable force, with which he opposed their progress; and after an engagement, in which the Danes were defeated, he pursued them to their shipping on the sea-coast, where they made a most obstinate resistance. The Britons, however, were victorious, but the slaughter was prodigious, there being not less than 30,000 left dead. After the battle, the Britons, wearied with fatigue, and perhaps shocked with the slaughter, returned to their homes, leaving the slain on the field of battle, where, being exposed to the different changes of the weather, the flesh rotted from the the bones, which were afterwards collected and piled in heaps by the inhabitants, who in time removed them into a vault in one of the churches of Hyat, now called Hythe."

This church is exempt from the jurisdiction of the archdeacon, being accounted a chapel of ease to the neighbouring church of Saltwood, to which manor the borough of Hythe is appurtenant, as previously remarked, and, together with that rectory, in the patronage of the archbishop of Canterbury, and included in the king's books in the valuation of the living of Saltwood.

There was formerly a chantry at Hythe, which, with others, was suppressed in the reign of King Edward VI.

In the year 1821 the parish of Hythe St. Leonard, contained 383 houses; and at the same period, when the census of the population was taken by order of parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 960, females 1221, making a total of 2181 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF WORTH,

Written in Domesday *Werde*, is the next hundred south-westward from Hythe. In the 20th Edward III. it was written as at the present day. This district contains within its boundaries the following parishes:

West Hythe, in part; Burmarsh; Dimchurch; Orgarswike; Blackmanstone; and Eastbridge; with the churches of the above parishes; also part of the parishes of Lymne and Newchurch, the churches, however, standing in other hundreds.

This hundred, excepting that part of the parish of West Hythe within its bounds, lies wholly in the district of Romney Marsh, and within the liberties and jurisdiction of the justices of the same.

West Hythe is the next adjoining parish south-westward from the town and parish, as above mentioned. It was formerly called Hythe, and afterwards Old Hythe, to distinguish it from the new town which rose out of its ruins, being also denominated West Hythe from its westerly situation. Great part of this parish is subject to the town and port of Hythe, and within the jurisdiction of its justices, over which the Cinque Ports claim liberty; the north-west part, wherein the church stood, is within the hundred of Worth, and jurisdiction of the justices of the county. The manor of Wye extends over part of this parish.

This place appears to have been of little note while the neighbouring harbour of Lymne remained in a flourishing condition; but when it was deserted by the sea, and no longer a harbour for shipping, the haven of West Hythe succeeded, and became the harbour; the town increasing in proportion as that of Lymne decayed. This, however, was of no long duration, for the sea continued to decrease from this coast so much that the haven was choked up with beach and sand, till it became quite useless. The shipping were then obliged to stop at East Hythe, which haven became the usual resort until the same inconstancy of the

element destroyed the latter, in like manner, by withdrawing its waters; for the sea does not flow near it for the space of half a mile, nor to this place by three times that distance.

It has never been ascertained at what periods the sea deserted these havens. That of Lymne was subsequent to the Romans quitting this island, and most probably at an early period of the Saxon heptarchy; as, in the reign of Edward the Confessor, West Hythe was of such great resort as to be esteemed one of the Cinque Ports; and Leland observes that the town increased so much as to extend along the shore to Hythe. It contained three churches, in addition to that of Our Lady, of West Hythe, the ruins of which, as well as the churchyards, remained in his time, as before observed. This statement appears probable, though no other writer mentions the circumstance. It is conjectured that the haven of West Hythe became useless a short time before the Norman Conquest, at which period Lord Coke observes it was added to the ports; which means, as we conceive, the present port instead of the old one at West Hythe. Some place the Roman port, called *Portus Lemanis*, at West Hythe, and others at Hythe; and among the latter is Baxter, forming his conjectures on the derivations of the name; but neither of these places are of sufficient antiquity for his purpose, and it is generally argued that it was not at either of them.

The parish lies on the ridge of quarry or sand hills, and extends below them, westward, as far as Botolph's bridge, now vulgarly called Butter's bridge, the two houses near which are within its bounds; and, southward, to the sea-shore, between the parishes of Hythe and Dimchurch. There is no village, but there are about fifteen straggling houses, and the ruins of the church at the foot of the hill leading to those remains. A tree is very rarely seen near this place.

West Hythe is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to the Virgin, has been long in a state of decay, and now exhibits only a portion of its bare walls, about three quarters of a mile south-eastward of Lymne, on the verge of Romney Marsh, and near the northern bank of the military canal. The *via strata*, or old Roman road, which led from Portus Lemanus (Lymne) to Durovernum (Canterbury), running parallel with the west end of this edifice, is distant a few furlongs from the same.

The building appears to have been originally very small, measuring within its walls not more than sixty feet, of which the western part is forty-five feet long by fifteen wide, and the chancel fifteen feet by twelve. A finely proportioned gothic-pointed arch eight feet wide and seven feet from the green turf, which covers the floor to the spring of the arch, separates these portions of the edifice. The east end is entirely demolished, while only part of the south side of the chancel now remains. There is a small doorway with a Gothic arch at the west end, only four feet wide, and not more than eight feet high, to the centre or point of the arch; and immediately above, a high and narrow window. The gable end is nearly thirty feet high, and evinces that the rest of the walls must have been considerably reduced even on the north side, where the ruins are still about sixteen feet in height having near the summit only a portion of one of the windows remaining. On the south side there is also one small window, but the walls in that direction are not more than twelve feet high. The cement appears to have been mixed with abundance of small pebbles and sea-shells. No monumental stones, carved work, or any other vestiges of its former condition, now remain; but an elm-tree between thirty and forty feet high, grows within the area of the church near the north wall, and another close to the demolished wall at the east end of the chancel.

It is to be regretted that some pains have not been taken to save this sacred edifice from profanation, especially as there is a stipend still attached to the possession of the living; although no duty has been for many years required. Even the ivy clinging to the walls would have given this ruin a picturesque appearance, but all verdure has been destroyed by a division of the main stem, thus presenting only rottenness and decay. Notwithstanding this, West Hythe church, from its low and sheltered situation, the solidity of its materials, the excellence of the cement, and containing nothing valuable to tempt the sacrilegious hand of avarice, may conduce to protract its decay, until many a proud edifice shall be laid prostrate in the dust.

This church probably fell to decay at the latter end of the reign of Henry VII., or the beginning of that of Henry VIII., as, in the 17th year of the former, Robert Beverlye, vicar, was buried in the choir, and as Leland wrote about the middle of

the latter reign, that is to say, forty years after, he represents it as then in ruins.

This church is a vicarage in the patronage of the archdeacon of Canterbury, who has likewise the appropriation of the great tithes. In the reign of Richard II. it was valued at £4, and, on account of the smallness of the income, not taxed to the tenth. It is valued in the king's books at £8 14 4½, and the yearly tenths at 17s. 5½d.; in 1588 the communicants were fifty-three; in 1640, forty; and it was then valued at £44. Before the civil wars 12d. an acre was paid to the vicar for marsh land in this parish; but the incumbent, to ingratiate himself with his parishioners, abated 2d. per acre, and in consequence 10d. has been paid ever since.

The christenings, marriages, burials, and other occasional duties, are performed at Lymne church, for which the vicar pays to that of Lymne an annual stipend.

The yearly income of this vicarage now amounts to about £27 clear.

In 1821, the parish of West Hythe contained 16 houses, and at the same period, when the census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 69, females 50, making a total of 119 souls.

Burmarsh is the next parish south-westward from West Hythe, and lies in Romney Marsh, within the jurisdiction of the justices of that district. This parish is extremely unhealthy, and the air and water sickly; the contagion being sufficiently exemplified in the pallid looks and short lives of its inhabitants. The village, with the church, consists of only four or five houses, situated among some fine elms, a very unusual sight in this part of the marsh.

The prospect of this country is very different from those previously described, presenting an entire flat for many miles, over a great extent of marsh land, a little of which, at intervals, is ploughed up for agriculture. The roads are wide, but exceedingly crooked and winding, and, in general, consist of nothing more than a deep black soil, having, in some places, beach and shingle laid on them. There are very few hedges, and to part the property of different persons, deep and wide ditches or dikes, with post and rail fencings, are every where made use of, presenting to

the eye a wide and uninterrupted view of marsh land, with a few houses and stacks of hay, and corn thinly scattered. Some low trees of pollard, ash, and willow, with cattle grazing, constitute the whole of this dismal scenery, but the marsh land ploughed up in this parish, is fertile and rich.

In the reign of Ethelwolf, about the year 848, Eadbald, his grandson, for the sum of 4,000d. gave this manor to his friend, Wyremund, who bestowed the same, with the land of Wyk, upon the monastery of St. Augustine, as a place of sepulture for himself; which continued in the possession of that monastery under the general title of the lands and church of St. Augustine. In the reign of Richard II. the abbot's possessions in this parish were 204 acres 1½ rood; in the reign of Edward II. the abbot was allowed, among other liberties in this manor, *free warren* in all his demesne lands, in consequence of the grants and confirmation by the king and his predecessors; Henry VI. likewise confirmed the same; and, from the length of time, it continued thus possessed, obtained the name of ABBOT'S COURT, by which it was afterwards called.

The Manor of Burmarsh, with *Abbot's Court*, continued part of the possessions of St. Augustine's monastery, till its dissolution, in the reign of Henry VIII. when this great abbey was surrendered into the king's hands, who granted it the ensuing year to Walter Hendley, esq. who conveyed it back to the crown; after which, we find it in the possession of Sir William Finch, of the Moat, near Canterbury, and his heirs male, to hold *in capite*. He dying in 1552, his two sons, Erasmus and Vincent, by his second wife, became successively possessed of this estate. Sir Thomas Finch then obtained the mansion, being the eldest surviving son of Sir William Finch, by his first wife. Erasmus and Vincent dying, it eventually came into the possession of the grandson of Sir Thomas Finch, of Eastwell, and earl of Winchelsea, who, in the reign of King Charles, passed it to Sir Ralph Whitfield. His son, Sir Herbert, in the reign of Charles II. alienated it, by the name of the manor of Burmarsh and Abbot's Court, to Sir Edward Dering, bart. of Surrenden; and in his descendants it continued down to Sir Edward Dering. A court-baron is held for this manor.

TRIENSTONE is a manor in this parish, which was, in the reign of Henry III., held of Dover castle, as appears by the book

of tenures, being a part of those fees which made up the barony called the *Constabularii*, by the performance of ward for the defence of that fortress; and by the book of knight's fees, taken from different inquisitions *ex officio*, under Edward I. it appears that the master of the hospital, or *Maison Dieu*, in Ospringe, then held it of the king's gift *in capite*. It continued in the possession of that hospital till the reign of Edward IV. when that establishment, with all its possessions, was escheated to the crown. The above monarch then granted the custody or guardianship of the same to secular persons; in which state it remained till the reign of Henry VIII. when John Fisher, bishop of Rochester, obtained a grant of the hospital and all its revenues, among which was this manor of Trienstone, for the better endowment of St. John's College, Cambridge, where it continued. It was then let by the college on a beneficial lease to Mr. William Pepper, of Folkestone, and Mr. Robert Hunt, of Dover.

The family of Broadnax had a mansion and estate here, called Broadnax, as early as the reign of Henry VIII., where William Broadnax resided. It then passed to David Papillon, esq.; the Brockman's, of Newington and Cheriton, had also possessions here at that time, which subsequently became the property of James Drake Brockman, esq. of Beechborough.

There are no *parochial charities;* the poor constantly relieved are four, casually six.

Burmarsh is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne.

The church, dedicated to All Saints, is handsome, and the tower at the west end embattled. There are no memorials or tombs.

This rectory was always appendant to the manor of Burmarsh, till the dissolution of the abbey of St. Augustine, under Henry VIII. when, coming to the crown, the king remained patron of the same. It is valued in the king's books at £20 10 10, and the yearly tenths at £2 1; and in 1588 at £60; the communicants being then thirty-six. In 1640, the estimation was £80, and the communicants the same. It is now, in consequence of the increase of arable land, valued at £150 per annum.

In 1821, the parish of Burmarsh contained seventeen dwellings: and, at the same period, when the census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants

were, males fifty-three, females forty-one, making a total of ninety-four souls.

Dimchurch is the next adjoining parish southward on the sea-shore, (written in ancient records *Demecherche,*) and situated on the same line as *Romney Marsh,* and within the limits and jurisdiction of its justices. It is defended from the sea by an artificial wall of great strength, constituting the sole barrier to the whole marsh, being overflowed. This wall is known by the name of *Dimchurch wall,* and is about three miles in length; extending from Brockman's barn eastward of this place, as far westward as Wallend, about a mile and a half from *New Romney.* The common safety being combined to preserve the same, scots are levied over the whole marsh, and the yearly expense is very great, generally amounting to £4,000, the force of the sea having increased so much, as to call for every exertion for its preservation. It is more than twenty feet in height, and as much in width at the top, the high road from *Hythe,* by *Dimchurch* to *New Romney,* being over its summit, and at the base, it may be said to extend upwards of three hundred feet, being defended outward down the sloping bank towards the sea by a continued raddlework of overlaths and faggot, fastened to two rows of piles, in ranges of three feet width, parallel with the wall, one above another, for a considerable distance; and across, by numbers of jetties, knocks, and groins, at proper distances, to weaken the force of the waves, and, at the same time, stop the beach and shingle which are continually thrown up, and lodging among the works at the sides of the wall, add an additional covering and strength. Through this wall are three grand sluices for the general serving of the marsh.

At a small distance lies the straggling village of Dimchurch, containing about forty houses, with the church and parsonage. Contiguous is a house called *New Hall,* built in the reign of Elizabeth, wherein the courts called the Laths are held by the lords of the marsh, who meet once a year, and hold a general Lath on Whit Thursday, for the regulation of all differences; to order the due execution of the marsh laws; frame new ones; order the reparation of the walls, sewers, and drainage of the marsh; and levy scots for the expenditures, &c. as will be further noticed hereafter.

The high road to Burmarsh and Buttersbridge, as far as West Hythe hill and the upland districts, traverses this village, being tolerably good, owing to the convenience of keeping the same in repair with the shingle. The inhabitants are, generally speaking, of the labouring class, being employed in the marsh for the management of the level; while others are of the seafaring order, many of whom carry on an illicit traffic by land and water. The country is completely open, scarcely a tree is to be seen; the lands are chiefly grass; while eastward, they abound in beach and shingle, the surface being very uneven, as far as the town of Hythe; whereby it is evident that the whole soil was anciently covered by the ocean to the base of West Hythe hill.

The Manor of Eastbridge claims over the major part of this parish, and the manor of Burmarsh over a portion; the principal one, however, being

The Manor of Newington Fee, otherwise *Dim*, or *Dimchurch*, extending beyond the boundaries of the same, into several others, having apparently been so called, as ranking a limb of the manor of Newington Belhouse, near Hythe, and therefore most probably uniformly subject to the same owners. In the reign of Henry VIII. it was held by Thomas Lord Cromwell, earl of Essex, prior to whose attainder, it went by purchase to the crown, as well as the manor of Newington Belhouse, whereto Newington Fee and Brenset were seemingly appendages. It so remained until the 1st of Mary, who granted this property to Edward, lord Clinton and Saye, to hold *in capite;* who, the following year, alienated the estate to Mr. Henry Herdson, of London. Francis, grandson of the above, under James I. passed this manor to Mr. Henry Brockman, of Newington; in which line it continued to James Brockman, esq. of Beechborough. He dying in 1767, without issue male, this estate went by will to the Rev. Mr. Ralph Drake, who assumed the name of Brockman; when his eldest son, James, became possessed of the same. A court-leet and court-baron is held for this manor.

Dimchurch is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to Sts. Peter and Paul, and the castellated mansion nearly contiguous, stand on the brow of the hill overlooking the whole extent of Romney marsh, and the objects be-

fore described, including the towns of Romney and Lydd, the village of Dimchurch, the lighthouse at Dungeness, and the high lands called Fairleigh.

Beneath this steep, was the once commodious haven, called by the Romans *Portus Lemanus, Lymanis,* or *Limanus,* the only harbour possessed by that people on the southern coast of Kent. The tide has long forsaken this spot, and the river Lymne ceased to flow; there are, however, some fine copious springs which issue from the neighbouring cliffs, and sink imperceptibly among the sands.

The church appears to have been originally a spacious edifice, but the destructive hand of time has made sad havoc with this venerable pile, as well as the neighbouring mansion or parsonage belonging to the archdeacon of Canterbury. The church has a massive square tower in the centre, ornamented by Saxon arches, but the roof both of the east and west end has been destroyed and replaced by a mean ridge of tiling, the walls having also been lowered considerably. Being wholly exposed to the south-west wind, which blows sometimes with prodigious fury, it was necessary that a building intended for duration and so situated should be of amazing strength; in consequence of this, independent of the thickness of the walls, there are immense buttresses well calculated to afford additional resistance to the effects of a tempest, or the attack of an enemy. There are no ancient monuments of note, but the churchyard is of great extent; and adjoining is a plot of ground, upon which, during the late war, there was a telegraph, as well as a signal station. The archidiaconal house is occupied by a farmer, one of the apartments of which is particularly worthy the traveller's attention. It presents a square room or hall on the ground-floor, having two fireplaces, one on the east, and the other on the south side, each measuring four yards in diameter. The walls are about five feet thick, and a stone staircase ascends to the roof. There is an embattled porch at the principal entrance on the north side, and at the west end a tower of very irregular form; projecting from which, is a circular turret, also embattled. The west door of the church has a Saxon arch, and in different parts of the building are Roman bricks, or, as they are frequently called, tiles, amongst the various materials which have been employed in repairing the edifice.

This church, which is a rectory, constituted part of the possessions of St. Augustine's monastery; and so continued until the dissolution, when it fell to the crown, and has so remained ever since, his majesty being patron of the same.

It is valued in the king's books at £7 2 8½, and the yearly tenths at 14s. 3½d.; appendant thereto is a parsonage house, and three acres of glebe land. In 1588, the valuation was £60, there being then seventy-three communicants. In 1640, the number was the same; it is now valued at about £80 per annum.

In the petition of the clergy, beneficed in Romney marsh, A.D. 1635, for setting aside the custom of two pence per acre, in lieu of tithe wool and pasturage, it was agreed, that wool in the marsh had never been paid for in specie, the other tithes being paid or compounded for; and in respect to this parish in particular, that the custom of two pence an acre for pasture and wool, sometimes called the tithe of dry cattle, had been proved by an indenture made between Richard Hudson, parson of Dimchurch, and Thomas Honywood, in the 43d of Queen Elizabeth.

There is a *modus* of one shilling per acre on all grass land in this parish.

In 1821, this district contained eighty-one dwellings; and at the same period, when the last census of the population of this parish was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 269, females 274, making a total of 543 souls.

ORGARSWIKE, usually called *Argaswike*, is the next parish north of Dimchurch, wholly on the level of Romney marsh, and within the liberty and jurisdiction of the justices of the same. It is written in ancient deeds *Ordgareswice*, having probably derided its name from some Saxon owner. There is nothing worthy of notice throughout this district, the lands of which present one unvarying flat of marsh grounds, without a hedge or a tree to diversify the dull monotony of the prospect. There is but one house in the parish, being the court-lodge; the number of cattle and sheep, however, interspersed over the lands, display the wealth of the owners. Near the above-mentioned dwellings, are a few stones, the only remains of the church, which once occupied the site.

ORGARSWIKE MANOR was given by Offa, king of Mercia, in

791, to Christ church, and so continued vested without interruption. Some time prior to the reign of Edward I. it appears to have had right of *free warren*, as, in the 7th of that prince, the prior laid claim thereto, when it was granted. By Edward II. the same was confirmed, and in this state the manor remained until the dissolution, when it was bestowed by Henry VIII. on his newly founded dean and chapter of Canterbury, part of whose possessions it still remains.

The dean and chapter also possess a marsh in this parish, called *Orgarswick Marsh*, containing eighty-eight acres, which had previously belonged to the priory of Christ church (*ad hospitium*), the same being demised on a beneficial lease. There are no *parochial charities* here, and there is not more than one person relieved in twelve months.

Orgarswike is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury, and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, long a ruin, is a rectory, which, in the 8th of Richard II. anno 1384, was valued at £4, and, on account of its poverty, not taxed to the tenth. Its valuation in the king's books is £3, and the yearly tenths 6s. It is now of the yearly value of £20, having one acre of glebe land annexed thereto.

In 1821, there was only one house, as before stated, in this parish; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males four, females six, making a total of ten souls.

Blackmanstone is the next parish north-east from *Orgarswike*, being also on the level of Romney marsh, and within the liberty and jurisdiction of its justices. In Domesday it is written *Blackemenestone*, a name derived from one Blackeman, a Saxon: *tune*, in that language, signifying an estate or territory. This district is very limited in extent, having only one dwelling; the court-lodge has been down for many years, a hut now occupying the site. The church stood on the opposite side of the road, whereof a few stones are the only vestiges. The lands are, generally speaking, marsh grounds, some being ploughed, the whole resembling those of Orgarswike, last described. This parish is assessed with that of Dimchurch, for the relief of the poor, in which latter, when there are any, they are maintained.

The Manor of Blackmanstone was, at the period of the Conquest, wrested from its Saxon owner, and bestowed, with other estates, on Hugo de Montfort. Of that powerful noble the property was held by one Hervey, as appears from the record of Domesday, wherein it is entered under the title of lands belonging to Hugo de Montfort. On the voluntary exile of Robert, grandson of the above, so frequently before referred to, the seignory of this manor, &c. fell to the crown, when it was held of Henry I. by a family named de Marinis; one of whom, Albericus de Marinis held it *in capite* by knight's service, in the reign of John, by tenure of Dover castle, being part of the knight's fees, constituting the barony called the constabularie there. Roger de Maryns died holding this estate under Edward III. when it went to Henry Haut, his next heir. In the 20th of the above reign, Joane, widow of Roger de Maryns, held a third part of this estate in dower, on whose demise, the entire fee became vested in Haut, as well as the advowson of the church. His descendant, Sir William, of Bishopsborne, left two daughters, when Jane, the younger, marrying Sir Thomas Wyatt, of Allington, he became entitled to this manor, &c. Having exchanged this property with Henry VIII. it remained vested in the crown till the 29th of Elizabeth, who granted it to Roger Parker, esq. one of her pages, by whom it was sold to Sir William Hall, of Bibrooke, in Kennington. His eldest son, Nevill Hall, esq. alienated this property, in 1630, to Edward Hales, of Tunstall; in whose descendants it remained down to Sir Edward, of St. Stephen's, who, in 1788, passed it to George Gipps, esq.; from whom it ultimately went to John Shoesmith, esq. There is no court held for this manor; neither are there any *parochial charities*.

Blackmanstone is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church was in ruins as far back as the 26th of Henry VIII. as appears from its valuation in the king's books taken that year. It is a rectory, and formerly appendant to this manor, and so remained till exchanged with the crown by Sir Thomas Wyatt, when Henry VIII. granted it to Archbishop Cranmer; since which, it has remained vested in the see of Canterbury. It is valued in the king's books at £4, the yearly tenths, 8s. In 1588, it was estimated at £16, there being then no communicants.

In 1821, this parish only contained one dwelling; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males four, females four, making a total of eight souls.

EASTBRIDGE is the next parish northward from Blackmanstone, being alike situated in Romney marsh, and within the liberty and jurisdiction of the justices of the same. In Domesday it is written *Estbridge*, and in other records *Estbruge*. There is nothing in this district worthy to be mentioned, the whole resembling the two parishes last described, with the exception, that it occupies a tract of ground somewhat more elevated. In the northern part is an estate that anciently belonged to the Monins's, afterwards the Napleton's, and then to the Butler's; from whom it was purchased by the Denne's, of Lyd. Above that property, contiguous to Eastbridge church, is another estate, formerly belonging to the Twysden's, and afterwards to Charles Lowndes, esq., and the trustees of Mr. John Finch's charity, at Lymne.

Prior to the Conquest, EASTBRIDGE was part of the possessions of Godwin, earl of Kent, and afterwards given by William the Conqueror to Hugo de Montford, who apparently held this MANOR *in demesne*, it being entered in Domesday record under the general title of his lands. After the exile of his grandson, Robert, this property continued as an escheat to the crown, and so remained until the commencement of the reign of Henry III. when it was valued at £12, and held by Stephen de Heringod. The latter, however, seems only to have had this property at will, as, in the 13th of the same reign, it was granted to Hubert de Burgh, earl of Kent, &c. with liberty to give or assign the same as he should think fit, to hold the estate by rent of one sore sparhawk yearly in lieu of all services. By the above nobleman this manor and advowson of the church was settled on the hospital of St. Mary, in Dover, or Maison Dieu, recently founded by him. It so continued till the suppression of that hospital, under Henry VIII. when it remained vested in the crown until Elizabeth, in her 5th year, granted it to Cuthbert Vaughan, esq., and Elizabeth, his wife, in special tail, with remainder to her heirs for ever. She remarrying with Sir Thomas Golding, and dying in 1595, this manor, with that

of Honychild, in the adjoining parish of St. Mary's, went to her two children, by her first husband, namely, Roger Twysden, and Margaret, his sister; whose husband, Richard Dering, esq. of Surrenden, became, in her right, possessed of this estate, and in his descendants, baronets, the same continued. No court is held for this manor.

EASTBRIDGE is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, which has long been in ruins, was originally a handsome structure, and, occupying a small rise, became a conspicuous object over the whole marsh. All now remaining are parts of the side walls, and the eastern wall of the steeple; it originally contained an aisle and a chancel, the whole built of quarry stone. This church was an appendage to the manor of Eastbridge, and given by Hugo de Burgh, as above mentioned, to Maison Dieu, at Dover. It so remained until the suppression; after which it was granted by the crown to Sir John Baker, of Sissinghurst, attorney general of Henry VIII. who reconveyed the property to the crown; in which it continued till the 1st of Edward VI., by whom it was granted to the see of Canterbury; in which state it has uniformly continued.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at £5 6 8, and the yearly tenths at 10s. 8d. In 1583, the valuation was £25, there being then no communicants; and in 1726 it continued of the same value. The property of the Dering family, in this parish, being demesne lands of this manor, claims exemption from payment of tithes.

In 1821, there were four dwellings in this parish; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males nine, females nine, making a total of eighteen souls.

THE HUNDRED OF STREET.

This district is situated northward of the hundred of Worth, last described, and is written in Domesday *Estraites*, and in later times *Strete*. It derived this appellation from the *street* or *via strata* of the Romans, which passed near it, now called *Stone street*, which led from Canterbury to Lymne and Stutfal castle, within its boundaries, of which further mention will be made hereafter.

Street contains within its bounds the parishes of Lymne in part, Sellindge in part, Aldington in part, Hurst, and Bonnington. Also the churches of those parishes, as well as that portion of the parish of Stanford containing Westenhanger, formerly constituting a parish of itself, but now united thereto. Two constables have jurisdiction over this parish.

A court-leet is held yearly for the upper half hundred of Street, appendant to the manor of Aldington, the same being alternately convened at the latter place and Newin green. There is another court-leet for the lower half hundred, the king being lord of the same : no rents or profits belong to it. The constable for the time being, there officiates, who defrays the expense of a steward, &c.; his only business consists in the appointment of a succeeding constable, to officiate in the like capacity when his service terminates.

Lymne is the next parish northward of Burmarsh, standing mostly on the quarry or sand hill. In ancient deeds it is written *Limne, Limpne, Limene,* and *Lymne,* having taken its name from the ancient river *Limene*, which once ran below it, at the foot of the hills, whither, and perhaps even higher, the tide of the sea formerly flowed, through a channel sufficiently deep for the passage of ships as then constructed. It unquestionably formed at this place a commodious port, then called *Portus Lemanis,* but wanted sufficient force of the freshwater currents to repel the sand and beach, as previously remarked in

this History. The haven was at length choked up, together with the channel of the Limene, whose waters then took another direction, when the channel through which it once flowed to its mouth, nearest the sea, has for many centuries remained dry land, affording very fine pasturage for the cattle which graze thereon.

The portion of this parish wherein the church and village stand, lies within the hundred of Street, the south-eastern parts in that of Worth, and the remainder, being northward, in Heane hundred. The lower or southern part is within the level of Romney marsh, and the liberty and jurisdiction of the justices of the same.

This place is acknowledged by most writers to have been that station of the Romans mentioned in the Geography of Ptolemy by the name AIMHN, and in the Itinerary by that *of Portus Lemanis*, then of very great account. The Limene, now called the Rother, once flowed hither from Apledore at the base of the hills, the cliffs still appearing to have been worn away by the current of its waters. The channel is still apparent, the grounds along the course being lower than any other adjacent part of the marsh: the ditches also continue full here, while those nearer Dimchurch, &c. are so dry that no waters are left to enable the husbandman to sow from the same. Owing to the last-mentioned circumstance, many hundred acres of marsh lands through which it once flowed from Apledore and Ruckinge, by Fairfield and Snargate, are now a swamp during the greater part of the year. Upon this stream, at the foot of Lymne hill, the Romans had their famous port, to which the ocean then flowed from its mouth, probably in the vicinity of Hythe westward. To defend this haven, they had a very strong fort midway down the hill, wherein, towards the close of the Roman empire in Britain, was garrisoned a detachment, called, as before observed, *Turnacenses*, being troops from Tournay, in Flanders, having their commander, who was, however, subject to the control of the count of the Saxon shore, in Britain. Independent of the above, on the summit of the hill, where the castle or archdeacon's house stands, was, in all probability, a watchtower, being one of the five which the Romans, under Theodosius the younger, as we are informed by Gildas the historian, built on the southern coast of Britain, to watch the motions of the Saxons, whose invasions the fort beneath was capable of repelling.

Engraved by S Lacey

THE [illegible] OF A ROMAN STATION

Published 1829, by Geo Virtue, 26 Ivy Lane.

To the latter fort, from the station of *Durovernum*, or Canterbury, was a Roman road or street, now called Stone street, being still distinguishable for many miles. The distance from one of these stations to the other, in Antoninus, is marked AD PORTUM LEMANIS, M. P. XVI.; sixteen miles answering nearly to the existing distance. The fragments remaining of this fortress, now called STUTFALL, or STUDFALL CASTLE, show the astonishing thickness of the walls. They consist of rubblestone and mortar, mingled with small pebbles, the facings being nearly obliterated. Those that are entire, present double rows of Roman tiles, laid at five feet distance apart, with their extremities curved, the same as at Richborough castle. On the east and west sides are large fragments, down the hill, and on the upper side, are many of the same, about twenty-five feet distant from each other. The upper north-west corner presents a circular tower, faced with square stone, the inside filled up and entirely solid. On the lower side, near the marsh, there are no remains, as the river running beside it, was probably a sufficient defence without any further addition. The area contains near ten acres of ground, the fragments appearing, by length of time and the steepness of the hill, to have been stripped of their surface, overthrown, and slipped from their original places. The exact plan of this fort, therefore, cannot be properly ascertained. It is, however, conjectured to have been of a square form, with the upper corners a little rounded, and probably continued of use only as long as the harbour and port close to it remained. But the sea being choked up with beach and sand, the course of the river Limene diverted into another channel, when this fort became useless, which is supposed to have been about the time the Romans abandoned this island. At the coming of the Saxons, the port of West Hythe became of note upon the decay of this haven and port; but there is no doubt while the latter flourished, that the town of Lymne was of equal importance; Leland calls it the great old town, and says it failed, with its haven, and that thereby West Hythe strait increased and was in price. The following is the account, as given by that antiquary: "Lymme hille, or Lyme, was sumtyme a famose haven, and good for shyppes that myght cum to the foote of the hille. The place ys yet cawled Shypway and Old Haven. Farther at this day the lord of the Vportes kepeth his principal cowrt, a lytle by est

fro Lymme hill. Ther remayneth at this day the ruines of a stronge fortresse of the Britons hangging on the hil, and commynge down to the very fote. The cumpase of the fortresse seemeth to be a x acres, and be lykelyhood yt had sum walle, beside that streeched up to the very top of the hille, wher now is the paroch chirche and the archidiacon's howse of Canterbury. The old walles of the castel made of Briton's brikes, very large, and great flynt set togyther almost indissolubely with morters, made of small pybble. The walles be very thikke, and yn the west end of the castel appereth the base of an old towre. Abowt this castel, yn time of mind, were fownd antiquities of many of the Romeynes. Ther, as the chirch is now, was sumtyme, without payle, an abbay. The graves yet appere yn the chirch, and, of the lodgings of the abbay, be now converted ynto the archidiacon's howse, the which ys made lyke a castelet embatelyd. Ther went from Lymme to Canterbury a streate fayr paved, wherof at this day yt is cawled Stony streat. Yt is the straitest that ever I sawe, and towards Canterbury ward, the pavement continually appereth a iiii or v myles. Ther cummeth at this day thorough Lymme castel, a little rylle and other prety waters resort to the place abowt Lymme hil; but wher the ryver Lymme showld be, I can-not tel, except yt showld be that that commeth above Appledore, iii myles of, and that ys cours now ys chaunged, and renneth a nerer way ynto the se, by the encresing of Rumeney Marsch, that was sumtyme at se. The old castel of Lyme belonged to Ric. Knight, of Hyne, late decesed."

Notwithstanding its former size, it is now a very inconsiderable village, situated on the summit of the quarry hill, with the church and the archdeacon's house appendant. The latter, formerly called the castle, but now the court-lodge, is probably built on the site of the ancient Roman watchtower above mentioned, on the verge of the almost perpendicular summit. It is a fine lofty castellated mansion, commanding an extensive view over the marsh and adjoining ocean, to the southward from which it appears a most distinguished object. Several springs rise out of the rock, one of which runs through the wall of the castle, and thence down the hill towards the marshes. The centre of the parish lies along the ridge of these hills, which present an entire surface of stone, on each side extending into

the marsh, southward to Botolph's, now called Butter's, bridge, which is supposed to have been the most ancient stone bridge in England; however, from the repairs constantly made with new brickwork, little of its ancient masonry remains. Upon the point of a hill between Hythe and Lymne castle, a battery of four guns was erected, which commands the adjacent coast, intended as a covering to the three new forts at Hythe.

The Circular Redoubt is a strong fort or battery, of modern erection, situated on the verge of the sea, and at the eastern extremity of that enclosure of the level of Romney marsh, called *Dimchurch* wall.

It stands about three miles from Hythe, and the appellation describes its form; it would, however, require much technical knowledge to convey an adequate idea of its neatness, regularity, strength, arrangement, and construction, which severally claim the attention of every traveller, and the eulogies of all tactitians.

This fortification occupies the level shore at that point where the line of coast running out southward to *Dungeness*, forms a bay, being supplied with eleven twenty-four pounders, upon traversing carriages, not only capable of raking the coast, but commanding, in an opposite direction, the whole level of the marsh. The entrance is from the north, where a chain bridge, turning upon a pivot, is with the greatest facility made to close up the only approach to the same. A ditch, twenty feet deep, strongly cased with brickwork, surrounds the whole, while the guns are capable of being pointed in every direction, having this peculiar advantage from situation, that no shot from on shipboard can take effect. Between the *embrasures* there are arched recesses for the security of the garrison; while a terrace or platform, of twenty feet in breadth, considerably below, and secured by the ramparts on which the guns are mounted, encloses a circular area, to which a double flight of stone steps descend. Round the same are *casemate*-barracks, of sufficient extent to hold a regiment of infantry, with magazines, and receptacles for provisions and stores. The diameter of the area is about one hundred and fifty feet, and the thickness of the walls whereon the arches are turned that support the platform, above nine feet.

The towns of Romney and Lydd, and the villages of Dim-

church, Newchurch, and Burmarsh, are all visible from the Circular Redoubt, which is south-east and by-south of Lymne, and nearly an equal distance south-west and by-west of Hythe. Near the road leading to the last-mentioned town, the singular effect of large oak-trees seeming to spring from the gravel and shingle of the sea-shore, is observable. This evinces the ancient condition of the country, while the verdure of the leaves proves that the blighted and withering appearance of the trees on most parts of the Sussex coast, is not the effect of saline breezes alone, but partly dependent upon the soil in which they grow.

About half a mile eastward from the church of Limne, is a place, in old records called *Shepway Cross*, which was once so considerable as to give name to the whole lath, and hence called the *lath of Shepway*. In ancient times, assemblies and pleas relative to the Cinque Ports were held here, and the Limenarcha, or Lord Warden, at this place received his oath upon entering into his office.

Prince Edward, son of Henry III. at this place accepted from the barons of the Cinque Ports their oaths of fidelity to his father, in opposition to those who supported the wars against him.

Mention has been made in the description of Folkestone, that the hills being part of the same ridge of sand, or quarry, on which Lymne is situated, slip or press forward at times toward the sea. The truth of this is, in some measure, corroborated by a similar instance on these hills in the autumn of 1726; when, in consequence of a very wet season, the brow, on the south side of the hill, toward the marsh, sunk between forty and fifty feet, raising the lower part nearly as much. A farmer who inhabited a house upon the spot, did not perceive it until the morning, when he found it impossible to open his doors, and the house must have fallen had it not been built of timber; but a large barn adjoining, composed entirely of stonework, was levelled with the earth.

The Manor of Aldington claims over part of this parish, the town and village of Lymne, with the church, being within its bounds; the manor of Wellop is likewise an appendage to the above manor.

Berewick, now called Berwick, is also a manor, lying about half a mile northward of Lymne church, in the valley be-

tween the latter place and Newin green. Canute, previous to the Norman conquest, gave it to Eadoy, a priest, who, in the year 1032, passed it to the monastery of Christ church, in Canterbury. The copy of the grant may be seen in Somner's Roman Ports, presenting a very curious specimen of the style of donations at that period. Among other revenues of the priory it was allotted to the archbishop, of whom it was afterwards held by knight's service, and continued so till after the Norman conquest.

Subsequent to the above period, the manor of Berwick passed into the possession of the Auberville family, in which it continued till Joan, daughter and heir of Wm. de Auberville, carried it in marriage to Nicholas de Criol. His descendant, Bertram, dying, his sister, Joan, took it as a marriage portion to Sir Richard de Rokesle, whose daughter and coheir, Joan, under Edward II. marrying Thomas de Poynings, he became possessed of it in her right, and in his descendants it continued down to Sir Edward Poynings, of Westenhanger. On the death of the latter, in default of legitimate issue, or collateral kindred, in the reign of Henry VIII. this property became escheated to the crown, when the king soon after bestowed it upon his natural son, Sir Thomas Poynings, created Baron Poynings, of Ostenhanger, who shortly after exchanged this manor, together with that of Westenhanger, with the king, for estates and lands in other counties. This manor, with that of Westenhanger, eventually descended to the family of Champneis; one sixth part to Miss Frances Champneis and the two sons of John Burt, esq. deceased, and the remainder to the Rev. William Henry Burt Champneis. There is no court held for this manor.

Otterpoole, usually called *Afterpoole*, is a manor in the north-west of this parish, which in Domesday record appears to have been part of the possessions of Hugo de Montfort, under the general title of whose lands it is entered. On the voluntary exile of his grandson, in the reign of Henry I. the seignory of this manor devolved to the king, of whom it was afterwards held by the family of De Marinis, one of whom, Albericus de Marinis, appears to have held it *in capite* by knight's service, in the reign of King John. It then passed to the family of the Haut's, of Bishopsbourne, and thence again by the marriage of Jane, youngest daughter of Sir William Haut, to Sir

Thomas Wyatt, of Allington. He, in the reign of Henry VIII. exchanged this estate with the king, for other manors, who granted the same, by sale, to James Hales, serjeant at law, to hold *in capite*. His son, Sir James, of the Dongeon, alienated it to Thomas Smith, esq. of Westenhanger, whose grandson, Thomas, was created Viscount Strangford. It then continued in the same descent as the manor of Westenhanger, down to the families of the Champneis' and Burt's. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Bellaview, or *Bellavue*, so called from the beautiful view it commands, is situated in this parish, near a mile south-westward from the church of Lymne, being an ancient moated seat, which in early times belonged to the family of the Criol's, prior to their removal to Ostenhanger. Bertram de Criol, who possessed it under Henry III. was constable of Dover castle, and warden of the Cinque Ports. He left two sons, Nicholas, who married Joan, daughter of Sir William de Auberville, and John, whose inheritance went to the Rokesle's and Poyning's by female heirs. From Nicholas Criol, the eldest son, descended John Kyryel, gent. who resided at this place, and died possessed of Bellavue in 1504, in the reign of Henry VII. He left one son, John, who afterwards sold it to Richard Bernys, esq. who soon after alienated the same to Thomas Wombwell, of North-fleet, and he, in the reign of Henry VIII. conveyed it to Peter Heyman, esq. of Sellindge, whence it passed by sale to Beding-field, of Oxborough, in Norfolk. In the descendants of that family, the property continued till it became the inheritance of several brothers, as coheirs in gavelkind, who joined in the sale of their respective interests in the reign of James I. to Sir Edward Hales, knight and baronet of Tunstall. In his descend-ants it continued till it was at length alienated to the Green's, when George of that name sold it to William Glanvill, esq. at Ightham, on whose death, in 1766, it went to his son, William Glanvill, esq. of that place.

Street is an eminent manor, situated at the western bounds of this parish, near the foot of the same ridge of hills, within the liberty of *Romney Marsh*. In Domesday it is written *Estraites*, and afterwards commonly *Court at Street*, but vul-garly *Court up Street*, deriving its name from the court or manor, and being near the street, or *Via Strata* of the Romans.

It was situated close to a town or hamlet once existing here, and which was anciently called *Billerika*, as appears by the escheat rolls of the reigns of Edward III. and Richard II. The ruins may still be traced, especially near those of the chapel, which are midway down the hill, and built for the use of the inhabitants. It is reported that here was once a very large town, though there are now remaining but one cottage in the vicinity of the chapel, and a house or two near the summit of the hill. Leland says, that "Billerica is abowte a myle fro Lymme hille, and at this day yt is a membre of Lymme paroche. Howbeyt there is a chaple communely cawlled our Lady of Cowrt up Streate, wher the nunne of Cantorbiry wrought all her fals miracles. Hard by this chaple apere the old ruins of a castalet, wherbi yt may be thowght that the place and the towne there was cawled Billirica, as who showld say in Latyne, *Bello-castrum*, and that the new name of Cowrt up Streate began by reason of the place or cowrt that the Lord of the Soyle held ther. The commune voyce is ther, that the towne hath bene large, and they shoe now ther *Signa Prætoriana*, that is to say, a horne garnished with brasse, and a mace. But the likelyhad ys that they longed to Lymme sumtyme a notable towne and haven."

In the time of the Saxons, one Godwin had possession here, according to Somner's Treatise on Gavelkind; and a curious marriage contract appears, being a chirograph remaining among the archives of Christ church, in Canterbury, which Godwin made with Byrthric, when he wooed his daughter, and in which he gave her one pound weight of gold if she consented, and the lands of Strete and Burmanemersh, with horses, oxen, cows, and bondsmen, the longest liver to take all. This contract was made at Kingston, before Canute, in the presence of Archbishop Living. When the maiden was conveyed to Brightling, in Sussex, she was accompanied by a number of persons, as sureties, and the writing threefold preserved in the convent of Christ church; while, in the monastery of St. Augustine, the third Byrthric kept himself. After the Norman conquest, this manor constituted part of the possessions of Hugo de Montfort, under the general title of whose lands it is there entered.

Upon the voluntary exile of his grandson, under Henry I. it fell into the hands of the crown, and subsequently passed to the family of Handelo, or Hadlow, mentioned in ancient records as

being of very high descent, and lords of this manor. Nicholas de Hadloe, in the reign of Henry III. had a charter of *free warren* for all his demesne lands in this county, and the grant of a market and a fair yearly at his manor of Court at Street, holding it *in capite* of the king, as of his castle of Dover, by knight's service, being part of those which made up the barony called the Constabularie. In the reign of Edward II. John de Hadloe had license to fortify and embattle his house. At length, Nicholas de Hadloe, in the reign of Edward III. dying without issue male, his daughters and coheirs became entitled to this manor, by which means it became separated, and in the hands of different owners. One moiety of it appears to have passed into the possession of John Colville, who had married Alice, one of the daughters and coheirs of Nicholas de Hadloe. In his descendants it continued down to Francis Colvyle, who died possessed of the whole of this manor in the reign of Henry VII., the *other moiety* having in the mean time descended in the names of Lisle, St. Laurence, and Spicer. At length the whole became vested in Francis Colvile above mentioned. His descendant, Jeffery Colvile, in the reign of Henry VIII. alienated this manor to Edward Thwayts, whose grandson, Edward, in the reign of Elizabeth, passed it away to Edward Jackman, citizen and alderman of London, who dying that year, it descended to his son, John Jackman. By the latter, this property was alienated to Wm. Hewitt, esq. whose grandson, Sir William of Brickles, in Norfolk, by will in 1662, devised it to trustees, to be sold; when it was purchased by Mr. George Lovejoy, clerk. His widow, Mrs. Frances Lovejoy, died possessed of it in 1694; when her heirs subsequently alienated it to Sir William Honywood, bart. of Evington, whose descendant, Sir John Honywood, bart. succeeded to the same. A court-baron is held for this manor.

The CHAPEL is commonly called *the Chapel of our Lady of Court at Street*, and was built for the accommodation of the inhabitants of the adjoining hamlet: when the latter had fallen to decay, this edifice became neglected; for, in Henry VIII.'s reign, it seems to have become merely a cell for a hermit; when, to preserve it from total ruin, as well as to answer sinister purposes, Richard Master, parson of the adjoining parish of Aldington, encouraged a young woman who was subject to fits, to counterfeit the prophetess of divine inspiration, who frequently resorted

thither, under pretext of holding miraculous conferences with our Lady of Court at Street.

The commencement of this transaction occurred about the 17th year of Henry VIII. A.D. 1525; and she continued her divinations and prophecies for some months. Her fame, in consequence, spread in all directions, so that Archbishop Warham granted a commission to Dr. Bocking and others to search into the affair, when they, to evince an entire approbation of her calling, accompanied her to this chapel, attended by many gentlemen and ladies, and nearly 3000 of the common people. She was soon after constituted a nun in St. Sepulchre's priory, where she continued working miracles, prophesying, and exhorting all persons to perform pilgrimages to this chapel, being held in such veneration by all ranks as to acquire the name of the *Holy Maid of Kent*.

In that state she continued for several years, till the contemplated marriage of Henry VIII. with Anne Boleyn, causing much controversy, she was persuaded to prophesy on state affairs, and had the temerity to pronounce by divine revelation, that should his majesty proceed in his divorce, he would not remain king one month after. Henry, who had hitherto looked upon this imposture as totally unworthy his notice, immediately ordered herself and accomplices to be brought before the Starchamber; where, in 1533, they confessed the whole to have been an imposition, before a great assembly of the lords. All those implicated were sentenced to make their public confession after sermon at St. Paul's cross, to be conveyed thence prisoners to the Tower; after which the affair being brought before the House, an Act was passed for their attainder, when Elizabeth Barton, Richard Master, Edward Bocking, and several more, were executed at Tyburn, and their heads set up at different parts of London. John Fisher, bishop of Rochester, and many others, were also found guilty of misprision of treason, and their goods and chattels forfeited during pleasure.*

Wellop, or *Wylhope*, is a manor in the south-west part of

* In an old register of the parish of Lymne, commencing in the year 1612, which the writer inspected in the house of Mr. Hills, at Court at Street, under the date 1626, it appears that the whole expenditure for that year amounted to no more than £3 3 1, the receipts being only £2 10 9, leaving 12s. 6d. due by the parishioners to the overseers; whereas, the expenditure for the year 1827 was

this parish, situated below the hill in the liberties of ROMNEY MARSH, and was part of the ancient possessions of the see of CANTERBURY. It appears to have been an appendage of the archbishop's manor of Aldington; and in Domesday it is entered under the general title of his lands. This manor continued in the possession of the see of Canterbury, till Archbishop Cranmer exchanged the manors of Aldington and Wellop with the king for other estates; when that monarch immediately granted the site and demesne lands of the same to Mr. John Knatchbull, to hold for eighty years. James I. gave a similar grant to Eldred and Whitmore, for sixty years; after which, Charles I. passed them to Sir Edward Hales; in whose descendants the estates continued down to the Green's, when Mr. George Green alienated it to William Glanvill, esq. of Ightham; after which it descended to his son, William Glanvill Evelyn, esq. of Ightham. A court-baron is held for this manor.

There is an estate called COMBE in this parish, which formerly belonged to the Denne's, of Denne hill, and was subsequently purchased by the executors of Dr. William Harvey, of Folkestone, who conveyed it to the trustees of the school and charity founded by the Doctor, in that town.

Many eminent families have been residents in this parish. Among

from £900 to £1000. In another ledger, the disbursements, so late as 1750 to 1751, were only £81, Mr. William Hills, an ancestor of the present gentleman, being then overseer of the poor.

We have made the above statement in order to prove the astonishing increase of trade, specie, and population, in this part of the county of Kent; and should conceive ourselves deficient on the score of gratitude, did we not offer our sincere acknowledgments to Mr. William Hills, for the politeness experienced at his hands. We also beg leave to express the pleasure we felt from the inspection of his valuable fossil remains, coins, &c.; and in particular the knowledge we acquired of the surrounding scenery, and objects of curiosity and antiquarian research wherewith the neighbourhood abounds. To the above, we beg to add, that Mr. Hills is a very efficient member of a select association, established at Hythe, modestly entitled, The Reading Society, which commenced its operations in the November of 1827. The purport of this institution is to inculcate knowledge by mutual association, for which purpose lectures are delivered on all topics connected with arts and sciences, religious and political subjects being alone excepted. The meetings are held at the White Hart, the members having the use of the Guildhall if required, there being no less than seventy names upon the books, which, in so small a town as Hythe, is a convincing proof that the march of intellect is there duly appreciated.

whom may be enumerated the Knatchbull's, the Knight's, the Teagger's, the Kyryell's, and the Finche's, as appears by their wills in the prerogative-office in Canterbury.

Lymne is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of its own name. The church, dedicated to St. Stephen, stands on the edge of the rock at the south-east corner of the village. It is a fine ancient building, and in the chancel are several memorials to the Bridger's, tenants of the court-lodge; in the north aisle is a tomb to Henry Bagnal, vicar of Lymne in 1748; in the north wall a monument appears to Capt. Isaac Batchelour, obt. 1681; and two stones, shaped like coffins, apparently very ancient, are placed near the porch; the churchyard is large, having many tombs, but the inscriptions, from lapse of time, have become unintelligible.

The church of Lymne was part of the ancient possessions of the archbishopric, and continued so till Archbishop Lanfranc gave it to the archdeaconry. The parsonage house, since called the court-lodge, or Lymne castle, is situated on the edge of the hill, close to the west end of the church. It is a large castellated mansion, with Gothic arched windows and doors, and embattled at the top, having a semi-circular tower at the west end. The offices are built of stone, with arched doors and windows, and the whole enclosed with very ancient walls. The lower part appears to have been built from the ruins of Stutfall castle; Leland says, that there was once an abbey there, as, in the description of the archbishop's manor of Aldington in Domesday, it appears to have had an ecclesiastical community, for seven priests paid a rent to the archbishop; since that period, this parsonage, with the court-lodge, tithes, glebe lands, and advowson of the vicarage of the church of Lymne, remained in the possession of the archdeaconry of Canterbury. The parsonage, before mentioned, with the house, yard, great tithes of this parish and West Hythe, as well as 112 acres of arable and pasture, and forty acres of wood land, in Lymne, West Hythe, and Stanford, were demised on a lease for three lives to William Glanvill Evelyn, esq.; but the presentation to the vicarage the archdeacon retained in his own hands.

In the reign of Richard II. A.D. 1384, this vicarage, on account of its poverty, was not taxed to the tenth. It is valued in the king's books, at £7 16 8, but is a discharged living, of the

clear yearly certified value of £31; in 1588, there were 181 communicants, and its value was £30 per annum.

In that part of the parish of Lymne situated in the hundred of Street, there were, in 1821, fifty-six dwellings; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 250, females 194, making a total of 444 souls.

Sellindge lies north-westward of Lymne; this parish in Domesday is written *Sedlenges*, and in later records both *Sellinge* and *Sellindge*. The church and village are within the hundred of Street, and the remainder in that of Stawting. It is distant about six miles from Ashford, great part being on high ground, and commands a view over the neighbouring country, which renders it very pleasant in fine weather. It is two miles and a half long, and upwards in breadth, being watered by three streams; one of which rises at Postling, and is called the Old Stour, at which place it is joined by two others from Stowting and Braborne, and thence flows to Ashford. In the centre of this parish the road to Hythe leads across a common called Sellindge's Lees, having many houses round it; Somerfield hall stands on one side, and, about a quarter of a mile from the Lees, is the church, upon the knoll of a hill, with the vicarage adjoining; while, a little on the other side of the stream, is a hamlet, called Stonehill. The soil of this parish is wet and swampy; the southern part abounds in quarry stone, the middle being a deep sand, and the rest a stiff clay. The whole is hilly; the grounds mostly pasture land, and there is but little coppice wood. Two fairs for cattle are held here, on the 21st of May, and 11th of October.

Part of this parish is situated in *Romney Marsh*, and the hundred of *Worth*; and, at a distance from the rest, the district is called *Tattenham*, that portion lying between Dimchurch and Blackmanstone, in both which, parts of the same are situated. It formerly belonged to the Scot's, of Scot's hall, afterwards to the Smith's; whence it passed to the Hales's, and then to George Gipps, esq. of Canterbury.

William Tylle, otherwise *Sellinge*, a man of great learning, was prior at this place in 1472, and died in 1495, having been employed by Henry VIII. in several foreign embassies.

The MANOR of SELLINDGE was, in 1080, part of the possessions of Hugo de Montfort, by gift from the Conqueror. It was subsequently escheated to the crown, and then granted to William de Planers, a Norman; whose estates having been seized by the crown, King John, in his 6th year, granted the manor to his natural son, Geoffry, who died at Rochelle. It then passed to William de Putot, who was succeeded in this property by Hugh de Vinon, who, under Edward I. claimed this manor, which he held by knight's service of Dover castle. Shortly after the estate was divided into moieties, one of which was held by Peter Fitz Reginald, who held it by knight's service, and died in the 16th of Edward II. This manor then passed to the family of the Fitz Rogers; Sir Edward of that name, dying possessed of one moiety of the same, in the 26th of Edward III. whose descendant, Thomas, dying in the 5th of Richard II. his sister, Elizabeth, entitled her husband, John Bonneville, to this property.

The other moiety of the estate was possessed, under Edward II. by Cicele de Beauchamp; and, in the 17th of Edward III. John Beauchamp, of Hacche, in Somersetshire, died possessed of this property, leaving his son, John, an infant, who also dying, it passed to his sister, Cicele, who had espoused one Turberville, and John Morrett, son of Eleanor, his other sister; when, upon the partition of the property, this moiety of Sellynge manor went to the former, who held it in the same manner as the other moiety was possessed by the Fitz Rogers's. The estate then passed to the Tiptoft's; and, in the 11th of Edward IV. it was awarded to John Tiptoft, earl of Worcester, decapitated for his adherence to the House of York. His son, Edward, an infant, was restored to the titles of his father when Edward IV. regained the crown; but he dying the 3d of Richard III. left his three aunts his heirs. On the partition of this estate, Joane, wife of Sir Edmund Inglethorpe, became entitled to a moiety of this manor, and to the remaining moiety, by purchase from the heirs of Bonneville, and thus possessed the whole. The estate then passed to the Morton's; then to the Filoll's; and afterwards to the Willoughbye's, who sold it to the Heyman's, of Somerfield, in this parish. Sir Peter Heyman, bart. a descendant, at the close of the reign of Charles II. sold this property, together with his seat at Somerfield, &c. to Thomas Gomeldon,

esq. subsequently of Somerfield: after which, the manor passed to William Dicconson, when Meliora, his wife, in 1776, sold the estate, together with Somerfield, Haringe, and Wilmington, subordinate to the same, in this parish of Lymne, to Thomas Hayman, gent. afterwards of Somerfield. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Haringe is a manor lying at the southern boundaries of this parish, next to Lymne, being included in the description of the estates of Hugo de Montfort in Domesday record. Having passed to the crown by the exile of his grandson, Robert, it was granted by Henry I. to Hugh de Gurney, or Gournay, descended from one of those warriors who had accompanied William the Conqueror. That name having become extinct, this estate fell to the family of De Sharsted, Robert so called having possessed the property under Edward II. and III. It then passed to the Inglethorpe's, and ultimately to the Hayman's, of Somerfield.

The Manors of Wilmington and Somerfield, anciently called *Somerville*, were formerly in possession of the Wilmington's, Stephen of that name having held them under Edward I. In the 10th of Edward III. Roger de Wilmington leaving four daughters, they shared *Great Wilmington*, as it was then called, to distinguish it from *Little Wilmington* in Lymne, between them, when these manors went to St. Laurence, the husband of one of the daughters above alluded to. Ultimately, Katherine, daughter of Thomas de Laurence, conveyed them in marriage to Sir William Apulderfield; who, at the close of the reign of Henry VI. passed the same to Ashburnham and Tylle; the latter of whom afterwards possessed the whole by purchase, and died in 1485, having devised the property to his eldest son, William Tylle. His grandson, of the same name, leaving an only daughter, Elizabeth, she carried these estates, under Henry VIII. to Peter Heyman, esq. whose lands were *disgavelled* by an Act of the 2d and 3d of Edward VI. and his descendant, Henry, was created a baronet in 1641. His son, Sir Peter Heyman, at the close of the reign of Charles II. alienated his seat of Somerfield, with the manors of Sellindge, Wilmington, and Haringe, to Thomas Gomeldon, esq. of London. This property, by marriage, then passed to Thomas Stanley, of Preston, in Lancashire, who being attainted for treason in 1715, they were forfeited to the crown, during their joint lives, and

vested in commissioners, who sold their interest therein to Sir William Smith. Richard Stanley, son of the above Thomas, being insane, was subject to a commission of lunacy; and in that state this property remained until his decease, when William Dicconson, esq. and Meliora, his wife, became entitled to them. They having procured an Act for vesting the same in trustees for sale, these manors, with the seat of Somerfield, were conveyed to Mr. Thomas Heyman, who rebuilt the mansion, where he afterwards resided.

Hodiford, usually called *Great Hodiford,* to distinguish it from *Little Hodiford*, once part of this estate, is a manor at the north-west boundary of this parish. In ancient records it is written *Hodiworde*, and once gave its name to a family residing here. That line was succeeded by the Carden's, in whom it continued vested, until alienated to the Cobbe's, in the reign of Elizabeth. James Cobbe, under Charles I. sold this property to the Godfrey's, who resided here; after which, the manor was divided between Amye, sister of Thomas Godfrey, esq. and Peter Godfrey, esq. of Woodford, the former possessing *Little,* and the latter *Great Hodiford.* On the demise of Peter, and the division of his estates, his eldest son, Thomas, became entitled to Great Hodiford, which he devised by will, in 1772, to Mr. David Gravier, who subsequently assumed the name of Godfrey.

This Parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury, and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, contains two aisles, and the same number of chancels, having a pointed tower at the west end In the south chancel is a stone, presenting two figures, with an inscription on brass in memory of John Bernys, and Joane, his wife, the former having died in 1440. There are also monuments to the Heyman's, the Till's, and the Godfrey's, of Hodiford. The gallery was erected in 1630 by Walter Mantell, esq. of Horton Priory, having in front the armorial bearings of that family carved in wood.

This church appears to have been given by Hubert de Burgh, in the reign of Henry III. to the hospital of St. Mary, or Maison Dieu, in Dover. However, in the 8th of Richard II. it was part of the possessions of the abbot of Pontiniac, the vicarage not being taxed to the tenth owing to its circumscribed income. How it reverted back to Maison Dieu, does not ap-

pear, but it remained part of the possessions of that institution until the same was dissolved under Henry VIII. when it passed to the crown. It so continued until the 3d of Elizabeth, who exchanged it with Archbishop Parker, when its valuation was £8 per annum, except a pension of 5s. to the archdeacon; in which state it still remains, forming part of the possessions of this see. The advowson of the vicarage, however, appears to have remained in the crown to the present time, the king being still patron of the same.

In the king's books this vicarage is valued at £7 4 5. It is now a discharged living, of the clear annual value of £50. In 1588, the number of communicants was 145; in 1645, the valuation was £50, and the communicants 188. A vicarage house and twenty acres of glebe land appertain to this living.

In 1821, there were fifty-seven dwellings in this parish; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 245, females 224, making a total of 469 souls.

Aldington, usually called *Allington*, is the next parish south-westward from Sellindge, anciently written *Ealdintune*, implying its high antiquity. It stands for the most part in Street, and the residue, including the church, in that of Bircholt Franchise. This parish is very pleasant and salubrious; the grand ridge of quarry hills traversing it in length about two miles and a half, while it extends beyond them as far as the old Stour, and southward into Romney marsh, making in the whole an extent of two miles. On the ridge of the quarry hill stands Aldington, in the road passing through it from Lymne to Smeeth and Ashford. The church is to the north-east, and the court-lodge and parsonage on the opposite sides of the cemetery, whence is an uninterrupted prospect of Romney marsh, with the sea on one side, and the inland country on the other. This district contains many hamlets, for instance, at Aldington corner, Stone Street Green, in the vale, and Claphill, where the quarry hills terminate, when you descend to the clays, towards Mersham. Westward is Aldington Fright, so called corruptly in lieu of Frith, once a chace for beasts, belonging to the archiepiscopal manor of Aldington. It now forms a large heath, scattered over by cottages, having lands enclosed round them. At the south-

east corner is the court-lodge of *the manor of Polton Stansted.* A short mile north-west from Aldington Fright, is a remarkable eminence called *Collier's Hill*, within the parish of Mersham. It stands alone, being of a conical form, having at the summit a large pond, which does not give rise to the springs beneath, or communicate with them, except when the water is plentiful and runs over. It has never been known to be dry, when other springs and ponds in a parching summer have lost their waters. The corn lands in this parish are very productive, and there are good hop plantations, but wood is scarce. Near a conspicuous cluster of trees, called Aldington Knoll, is the estate of *Merwood*, or *Merrud*, formerly the property of the Hugessen's, of Provender, and afterwards of Sir Joseph Banks, and Sir Edward Knatchbull, barts. Here begin the clay hills, which as you advance, widen from the quarry hills, their course being north-west, when they continue west-south-west by the edge of Romney marsh, forming its boundary, and thence, by Bonnington and Ruckinge, to Warehorne, where they terminate.

A younger branch of the family of Cobbe, or *Cobbes*, was settled here in the reign of Edward IV. their mansion having been situated near the church, which was called *Goldwell.* A descendant of the above family sold this estate to one White, when it became of little account, and was subsequently divided, so that the property fell into the hands of about a dozen individuals.

The Manor of Aldington was, in 961, bestowed by Queen Ediva, mother of Kings Edmund and Edred, by the name of Ealdintune, to Christ church, Canterbury, and it so continued till the primate Lanfranc, in the time of William the Conqueror, on the partition of the possessions of that church between the monks and himself, apportioned this manor to the archiepiscopal see, it being entered as such in Domesday record.

The mansion here subsequently became a residence of the primates of Canterbury; which, on account of the salubrity of the air, and pleasant site, induced Archbishop Morton, under Henry VII. to enlarge the structure. In this state the dwelling continued till the time of Cranmer, who surrendered the same, with his best manors and palaces, the ancient possessions of his see, by a compulsory exchange, to the despotic Henry VIII. who for some time kept this mansion and park to himself.

In the 1st of Edward VI. this manor, &c. were granted to John Dudley, earl of Warwick, who two years after joined with Joane, his wife, in a reconveyance of the same to the king, in exchange for other property. The whole then continued vested in the crown till the reign of Charles I. who granted the manor, &c. in Southre, Northsture, Wold, Sibbersnoth, Newchurch, and Oxney, to Nicholas Siddenham, esq. and Edward Smith, gent. to hold in fee at the yearly rent of £260 17 4½. The estate then went by sale to the Randolph's, of Biddenden, then to the Mascall's, of Ashford, and ultimately to William Deedes, esq. of Hythe. Courts leet and baron are held for this manor.

The site and demesnes, however, of the manor of Aldington, which were vested in the crown from the reign of Edward VI. were, in 1610, first granted by James I. to John Eldred and James Whitmore, and then by Charles I. to Sir Edward Hales, bart. in feefarm for ever. The latter, however, being only a trustee for Sir Dudley Digges, in his descendants they remained down to Thomas Digges, esq. of Chilham castle, who in 1724 sold them to James Colebrooke, of London. Robert, son of the above, in 1775 alienated the property to Thomas Heron, esq. of Newark upon Trent, who sold the same to William Deedes, esq. of St. Stephen's, after which the property devolved to his son.

The court-lodge, north of the churchyard, is part of the remains of the archiepiscopal palace, built of quarry stone, with ashlar door and window cases, &c. The chapel remains entire, being now converted to domestic purposes.

Shrympenden manor was, under Charles I. possessed by the Kingsley's, and so remained till it passed by sale to Mr. James Colebrooke, of London, before mentioned. His son Robert, in 1775, alienated the same, with the Chilham estate, to Thomas Heron, esq. who sold it to William Deedes, esq. of St. Stephen's, when the property devolved to his sons.

Ruffin's Hill is an old mansion standing upon the hill, near the church, having derived its name from a family anciently possessors of the same. It then fell to the Godfrey's, and so continued vested, until it went by marriage to William Blechenden of Mersham and Rabege, to John Clerke, gent. of this parish. On the division of their estates, Copherst, in this parish, fell to the latter, while the former had the seat at Ruffin's hill, and in his line it continued to Humphry Blechenden, esq.

a descendant of Nicholas de Blechenden, in the reign of Edward I. Humphrey rebuilt this mansion, and in his descendants the property continued until the year 1677, when it was alienated to Julius Deedes, esq. of Hythe.

Simnell's, or *Simnolds*, is an old mansion in this parish, one mile from the church, having formerly had owners from whom it derived the name. From the Simnol family, under Henry VI. this property passed by sale to the Crosby's, of Aldington, then to the Godfrey's, under Henry VII. and subsequently, by marriage, to the Blechenden's. How long it continued in that name does not appear, but prior to the restoration of Charles II. it went to the Cason's of Woodnesborough, who in 1663 alienated the property to Thomas Blechynden, of Aldington, who resided here. In 1715 this estate was sold to Stephen Haffenden, clerk, of Egerton, whose grandson, Stephen Greenhill, the son of his daughter, succeeded, and subsequently, in like manner, the grandson of the latter.

Copthall, or *Cophall*, is an estate situated in the valley, not far westward from Ruffin's hill. It formerly belonged to the Knight's, and so continued until 1687, when it was devised, by Henry Knight, to James Symonds, of Aldington. The latter sold the property to one Hogben, whence in 1681 it passed to Mr. John Baker, who in 1702 sold it to Laud Cade, and he in 1728 passed the property to William Stanley. By marriage of a female heir, a portion went to Mr. John Franklyn, of Littleborne, who subsequently purchased the remaining portions of his wife's sisters, when, in 1777, the whole was alienated to the Deedes's of St. Stephen's.

Cophurst is an estate in the south part of this parish, anciently the property of the Godfrey's, and so continued to Thomas Godfrey, who resided here, and died possessed of this property under Henry VII. at which time it was called Cophurst, otherwise Bastard. By the marriage of Agnes to Wm. Blechenden, and Rabege, another sister, to John Clerke, they, on the death of their brothers, possessed this estate; when, upon the division of the same, the latter, in right of his wife, became possessed of Cophurst. From the Clerke's it went to the White's, by one of whose descendants it was alienated to the Honywood's, when it passed to Sir John Honywood, bart. of Evington.

ALDINGTON is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury, and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to St. Martin, is a large handsome structure, with two aisles, and the same number of chancels, having at the west end a fine tower steeple, but without battlements, which give it the appearance of being unfinished. The steeple was commenced in 1507, and not completed until 1557. The south chancel belongs to the two estates of Ruffin's hill and Simnell's, and contains a monument to William Deedes, M. D. obit. 1738. There are also memorials of the Metcalf's, Gregory's, and Blechenden's, as well as a monument to the memory of the family of Weddeol's, A. D. 1475.

The church of Aldington, with the chapel of Smeeth annexed, being exempt from the jurisdiction of the archdeacon, belonged to this manor until the reign of Henry VIII. when it was granted to that monarch, presentations and advowsons being, however, excepted. The patronage continued in possession of the see of Canterbury, as it does at present, his grace being patron of the same.

A vicarage was endowed in this church in 1295, and so continued until Edward IV. when Wm. Pope died vicar here, after which nothing more stands recorded.

This rectory, with the chapel of Smeeth, is valued in the king's books at £38 6 8, and the yearly tenths at £3 16 8. In 1588 the valuation was £160, the communicants being 197. In 1648 the communicants were 256, and, in Smeath, 180. There are about fourteen acres of glebe land appertaining to this rectory. A modus of nine-pence per acre on grass land exists here, in lieu of all tythes, to obviate which a suit was commenced in 1754, between Dr. Chapman the then rector, and Smith an occupant of such lands here, when the rector was cast.

The incumbent voluntarily supports a school here, for giving instruction in reading and writing.

In 1821 there were eighty-seven dwellings in that part of Aldington parish which is situated in Bircholt franchise and barony, and one in the portion extending to Romney marsh, making eighty-eight houses. At the same period, when the census of the population was taken by order of parliament, the numbers were, in Bircholt, males 372, females 356; and, in

Romney marsh, males 5, females 2, making a total of 377 males and 358 females.

Hurst, anciently called *Falconer's Hurst*, from a family once possessing it, is the next parish southward, near the base of the clay hills, being partly within the limit of *Romney Marsh*, and the liberty and jurisdiction of its justices. This district is but little known, and of small account, containing only two houses, nor does it boast any thing worthy to be mentioned.

The Manor of Hurst was given by Henry II. to William, son of Balderic, to hold in *sergeantry*, by the service of keeping one haunch for the king, and his successors; whose descendant, Godfrey le Huton, afterwards surnamed Falconer, from his tenure of this mansion, possessed it in the reign of Henry III. whence it acquired the name of *Falconer's Hurst*, being also held by the service of the sixtieth part of a knight's fee. Godfrey died possessed of this manor under Edward I. and his son, Robert de Falconer, in the same reign, was allowed *free warren*, &c. John succeeded to this estate in the reign of Richard II. and died possessing it, as well as the advowson of the church. He left two sons, Henry, who from his residence at Michelgrove, in Sussex, had taken that name, and John, who retained that of Falconer. Henry Michelgrove succeeded his father in this manor and advowson, and died the following year, as did John his son, who was an infant, and ward of the king, when John his uncle succeeded him, as did his descendant of the same name, in the reign of Henry IV. He, dying, left an only daughter Elizabeth, who carried this estate in marriage to John Shelley, esq. the descendants of whom continued it to the right honourable Sir John Shelley, bart. who alienated this manor, with the advowson of the church, to George Carter, esq. of Kennington, to whose son, the Rev. George, it regularly descended.

Falcon Hurst, otherwise Golden Hurst, is a capital messuage and estate here, once part of the manor of *Hurst*, from which it was alienated in very early times. Under Edward VI. we find it in the possession of Edward Colepeper, who alienated the same to one May, in the reign of Charles II. after which it became the property of Nathaniel Wall, of Middlesex. He, in the year 1675, suffered a recovery, when it passed to a family named Le Marchant, who had been residents in the parish of

Aldington, from the reign of Elizabeth. It then devolved to George Gipps, esq. of Canterbury, who transferred the same to William Deedes, esq. of St. Stephen's, by whose son it was afterwards possessed.

There are no *parochial charities* here, the poor constantly relieved being one or two, and casually five.

This parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury, and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to St. Leonard, has been a ruin since the year 1530, of which there is very little remaining. A dry ditch, that once encompassed the same, points out the site whereon it stood, having been close to the manor house. It was a rectory, and appendant to the manor of Hurst, under the patronage of the Rev. George Carter. In the reign of Richard II. anno 1384, the value was £4, not being taxed to the tenth. In the king's books it stands at £4 18 4, and the yearly tenths, 9s. 10d.; in 1588 it was estimated at £20, there being six communicants, and in 1640 the yearly value was £40. The parishioners attend divine service at the church of Aldington, where all occasional duties are performed.

In 1821, that portion of Hurst parish, lying in the hundred of Street, contained four dwellings, and at the same period, when the census of the population was taken by order of parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 13, females 11, making a total of 24 souls.

Bonnington, generally called *Bunnington*, is the next parish south-westward, upon the clay hills, extending southward into the level of *Romney Marsh*, and within its limits and jurisdiction. It is a lonely and unfrequented district, the soil a deep clay, the roads bad, and the north-west part generally woodland. The village, called Bonnington Cross, stands on elevated ground, and at a small distance is the church, nearly down the hill, and divided only by one meadow from *Romney Marsh*. A little way from the cross is a small forstal, surrounded by several houses, one of which, on the south side, is the *Pinn* house. To the north is a large tract called Bonnington common, conducting to Aldington Corner, at the north-east end of which the quarry stone begins. The southern part of the parish is within the level of *Romney Marsh*, the bounds of which are just below the

church. A court-leet was once held here for the boroughs of Bonnington and Humme, at which the borsholders of those boroughs were elected. This was, however, discontinued about the middle of Elizabeth's reign, an old oak still standing in the highway where it was convened, and thence called the Law-day oak.

The MANOR of BONNINGTON appears soon after the Norman conquest to have been part of the possessions of Hugo de Montfort, and, upon the exile of his grandson, escheated to the crown. It then appears to have been held by the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, the prior of which obtained it by knight's service of Dover castle. This manor, in the reign of Edward III. was divided into two parts, one of which acquired the name of *Bonnington*, otherwise *Singleton*, and was held of the prior, as will be further mentioned; and the other, which retained its name of *Bonnington*, rested with the prior of the hospital. It continued thus till the dissolution under Henry VIII. when it devolved to the crown, and was granted to John Williams to hold *in capite*, who alienated the same to Sir Thomas Moyle, who sold it to Sir James Hales, of the Dongeon. Sir James, grandson of the latter, exchanged it in the reign of Elizabeth with Sir Christopher Mann, of Canterbury, from one of whose descendants it passed, in 1695, to Thomas Turner, esq. of Lincoln's Inn.

His son, John, dying in 1748, his daughter married Sir Thomas Lambe, alderman of London, who dying in 1739, his two daughters became possessed of this property. The eldest was married in 1740 to Sir Robert Clifton, bart. and the youngest to James Maitland, earl of Lauderdale. The latter, in right of his wife, and Sir Gervase Clifton, in that of his mother, becamed entitled and possessed of this manor in *undivided* moieties. Sir Gervase sold his share, in 1780, to David Papillon, esq. of Acrise; who, some years after, purchased of the earl of Lauderdale his interest in the same, and so became proprietor of the whole manor.

The MANOR of BONNINGTON, otherwise KENNETT'S, formerly called the manor of *Bonnington*, or *Singleton*, was anciently a part of that estate, in this parish, which belonged to the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, as before mentioned, and from which it was separated as early as the reign of Edward II. At the above period, it was held of the prior of that hospital by a

family, called De Bonnington, from their possessions here; after which, it was divided between two brothers, Nicholas and John de Bonnington; the former of whom had the manor of Bonnington, or Singleton, and the latter a parcel of the lands adjoining, called *Kennett's;* both which estates passed, in the reign of Edward III. to Peter Basant and Richard de Otford.

In the reign of Henry VI. this manor became the property of Roger Bregland, or Bresland, who had espoused Dionisia, daughter and heir of Bonnington, by whom he had one son, Roger, and three daughters. She survived him, and married secondly John Cobbe, of Newchurch, who became possessed of her lands in this parish, and dying in the reign of Edward IV. the same continued in his descendants, till Edward Cobbe, leaving an only daughter and heir, Anne, she carried it in marriage, first, to Sir John Norton, of Northwood, and, secondly, to John Cobham, third son of George Lord Cobham. By her first husband she had a son, Thomas; whose grandson, Sir Thomas Norton, of Northwood, in the reign of James I. alienated the estate to one White; whose son purchased, from Valentine Knight, those lands in the parish, previously mentioned, and held by Richard de Otford. The same then passed to the Kennett's; thence to the Knight's, of Aldington; and was at length vested in White, as before observed, who thus inherited the manor of Bonnington, and estate of Kennett, the whole assuming the title of Bonnington manor, and the house that of the Pinn farm, or Bonnington Pin.

In the name of White, this manor and estate continued down to Thomas, who, in 1690, married Grace, sister of John Lynch, esq. of Graves, by whom he had a son, Thomas, and three daughters, married to Messrs. Goddard, Beake, and Hawkins. At his death, it descended, one moiety to the son, and the other to the three daughters. Thomas, the son, alienated his moiety to Goddard, who subsequently purchased the other moiety of the children of Beake and Hawkins, and thus became possessed of the whole. He afterwards sold the estate to his nephew, Mr. Samuel Goddard, of Mersham.

Bonnington is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to St. Rumwold, is small, consisting of an aisle and chancel; it has no steeple or memorials, but in the windows are some remains of painted glass.

In the reign of Henry VIII. this rectory fell to the crown, when the king granted it to Arthur Stringer, from whose descendants it passed into the name of Kempe, of Ollantigh, when Sir Thomas was found possessed of it in the reign of Elizabeth. From the latter, it passed to Sir James Hale's, of the Dongeon, who also owned the manor; the patronage of this advowson being vested in David Papillon, esq. of Acrise.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at £60 12 8½, and the tenths at £1 1 3½; its present value being £52 13 1½. In 1588, the value was £58, and the communicants thirty-nine; in 1640, the amount was £50 a year, the communicants forty; and, in 1742, the valuation was £70, having twenty-six acres of glebe land annexed thereto. There is a modus of 1s. an acre on the marsh land of this district.

In 1547, John Knight, of Aldington, willed that land appertaining to the churches of Aldington and Bonnington should remain to their use as in times past.

In 1821, that portion of Bonnington parish lying in Street hundred, contained eighteen dwellings; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were males 75, females 54, making a total of 129 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF NEWCHURCH

Is south-west from that of Street; written, in Domesday, both *Newcerce* and *Neucerc;* under Edward I. the king and archbishop were lords of the same.

Newchurch is south-westward from Bonnington, in the level of *Romney Marsh,* and within the jurisdiction of its justices. Part of this parish, with the church, is in the hundred of *Aloesbridge,* another in the hundred of St. Martin, and the residue in that of *Worth.* The whole of this parish presents an entire flat of marsh ground, having scarcely a hedge or tree ; it is about three miles across each way, and contains a few straggling houses, near the church. A fair is held here, on the 12th of June, for toys and pedlary.

The manor of *Aldington* claims paramount over the greater part of this parish, and although there is no mention made of it in Domesday record, yet there are several descriptions of lands within the hundred of *Newchurch,* entered under the general title of the possessions of Hugo de Montfort.

Packmanstone is a Manor in this parish, and anciently the patrimony of the family of the Criol's ; from which it passed, in the reign of Henry III. to that of Leybourne; when Juliana, daughter of Thomas, called the *Infanta of Kent,* dying possessed of it in the reign of Edward III. it was escheated to the crown in default of heirs. There it remained till the reign of Richard II. who settled it on the priory of canons at Chiltern Langley, in Hertfordshire, where it continued till the dissolution of that house under Henry VIII. That monarch granted the same, with the site of the priory and other lands, to Richard, suffragan bishop of Dover, to hold for his life, or till he should be promoted to some benefice of the yearly value of £100, upon which, this grant was to be void. That circumstance having taken place before the 36th year of the above king's reign, he granted it to Sir Thomas Moyle, to hold *in capite*; who gave it in marriage with his daughter and coheir, Amy, to Sir Thomas

Kempe, of Ollantigh. He alienated the estate to Thomas Smith, esq. of Westenhanger; and he dying, devised it to his fourth son, Sir Richard Smith, but his heir, Sir John, dying in 1632, his sisters became his coheirs. Mary, the eldest, carried it in marriage to her second husband, Maurice Barrow, esq. of Suffolk, who continued owner after the Restoration. It then passed by sale to the Godfrey's, of Hodiford, in Sellinge, in which family it remained down to Peter Godfrey, esq. of Woodford, whose second surviving son, Peter, became possessed of it on his father's death. The latter dying unmarried, in 1769, he gave this manor by will to William Machenzie, esq. of Woodford, who afterwards assumed the name of Godfrey.

Silwell, or *Sillowsbreg*, as it was anciently called, was a manor here, and once possessed by a family of that name. William de Sillowsbreg held it in the reign of Edward II. by knight's service of Dover castle, being part of the lands which formed the barony called the Constabularie, but, before the reign of Edward III. it was escheated to the crown. The sheriff of Kent accounted for the capital messuage, once held by William de Sillowsbreg, in Sillowsbreg, which had been escheated to the king, the abbot of Boxley and the prioress of St. Sepulchre accounting for the other parts.

That portion of this estate which was in the possession of the abbot of Boxley afterwards acquired the name of the *Manor* of *Sylswell*, or *Silwell*, and remained part of the revenues of the abbey till its dissolution, when, falling to the crown, it was granted by Henry VIII. to Sir Thomas Wyatt, of Allington. He exchanged it with the king, when Edward VI. granted it to Sir Walter Hendley, who left three daughters coheirs. Anne married Richard Covert, esq. of Slaugham, in Sussex, and entitled her husband to this manor; in whose descendants it continued till the reign of Charles II.

Ralph Fitzbernard once held land in Newchurch, by knight's service of the archbishop, who passed the same to Richard de Organer; whence it acquired the title of the *Manor* of *Organers*, and, in the reign of Edward IV. was in possession of the Cobbe's, whose seat in this parish was called *Cobbe's place*. John Cobbe died possessed of this estate in the reign of Edward IV.; and, upon its demolition, the site passed to James Blackmore, esq. of Hertfordshire, by whose heirs it was possessed.

The College of All Souls, in Oxford, are owners of a manor in this parish, called Googie Hall, with lands appertaining, called Cobbs, or the Lodge land, which manor and land were demised by the college on a beneficial lease to Mr. Benjamin Cobbe, of *New Romney*.

Newchurch is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to Sts. Peter and Paul, is a large handsome building, the pillars between the aisles being very beautiful. The altarpiece was erected in 1775, and the font is of stone, bearing two coats of arms. There is an ancient tomb in the south aisle, but without any inscription. The tower to the west is very much out of a perpendicular.

This church is exempt from the jurisdiction of the archdeacon, and has both a rectory and vicarage endowed in it. The rectory is a sinecure, and the vicar performs the whole duty of the curacy, though both receive induction, and are under the patronage of the see of Canterbury. In 1384, under Richard II. this vicarage was valued £4, but not taxed to the tenth; they are separately valued in the king's books, the former at £8 4 2, the yearly tenths at 16s. 5d., having four acres of glebe land annexed thereto. The latter is estimated at £19 16 0½, and the yearly tenths at £1 19 7½. In 1636, it was valued at £80, there being then eight communicants. In 1742, the rectory and vicarage were valued together at £140. There is a modus of 8d. per acre on all grass lands in this parish.

In 1821, the parish of Newchurch contained thirty-two dwellings; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 165, females 116, making a total of 281 souls.

Bilsington. The remaining parishes in this hundred lie, for the most part, on the clay hills above the marsh. Adjoining to Newchurch, northward, is *Bilsington*, called, in Domesday, Bilsvitone; the upper part, on the hill, together with the church, is within the jurisdiction of the justices of the county; the lower or southern part being within that of Romney marsh.

This parish is mostly situated on the clay hills, on the side of which the road leads, from Lymne, through Bonnington hither,

and so on to Rucking and Warehorne. The village stands at a spot called Bilsington cross; below which, there is a mile of plough land, down to the marsh, and contiguous to the same stands the church.

Close to the west end of the cemetery is the court-lodge of Bilsington inferior manor, surrounded by a deep moat filled with water. The remains of the priory command a pleasant view over the southern districts of the marsh. The farm-house was erected from the ruins of the religious edifice, the stonework of a large window having been placed over the porch, to the west; while, at the south-east corner, is a higher building of three stories, with very small windows, and a circular stone staircase. The soil is, in general, a stiff clay, but, towards Bonnington, rather sandy. The upper or southern part is in the district of the weald. A fair is held yearly, on the 5th of July.

Bilsington was, in 1080, part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Bayeux, upon whose disgrace, it was confiscated to the crown, and thence passed to the family of Albeni. William, who landed with the Conqueror, was surnamed Pincerna, from being chief butler to Henry I. and he appears to have held it by sergeantry, in that reign, by the service of performing the office in question at the king's coronation. He was earl of Arundel and Sussex; and in his descendants it continued down to Hugh, earl of Arundel, who dying young, in 1243, this large inheritance was divided among his sisters; Maude, the elder, married to Robert de Tatteshal; Isabell, to John Fitzalan, lord of Clun and Oswaltre; Nicholea, to Roger de Somery; and Cicely, to Roger de Montholt. Upon the division of this inheritance, John Fitzalan had two parts of the manor of Bilsington, and Roger de Somery the other third part, who alienated the same to John Mansell Clerk. Being thus separated, it became two manors, when the former was called the manor of *Bilsington Inferior*, or *court-lodge*, and the latter *Bilsington Superior*, or the Priory; the whole possessed in sergeantry, as being chief butler to the king at his coronation.

The manor of Bilsington Inferior continued in the possession of the descendants of John Fitzalan down to his great grandson, Richard, who was created earl of Arundel by Edward I. in 1289. His grandson, Richard, under Edward III. alienated this

manor to Edmund Staplegate, who died possessed of the same in the 46th of the above reign, having held it in sergeantry by the service of presenting three maple cups at the coronation. He was succeeded by his son, of the same name, then a minor, between whom and Richard earl of Arundel, there arose a great contest, at the coronation of Richard II. as to the performance of the office of chief butler, when it was ordered that the earl should then officiate, reserving, however, a right to Staplegate and all others.

This manor continued in the name of Staplegate till the reign of Henry VI. when it was sold to Sir John Cheyney, of Shurland, who held it *in capite*, with the manor and lands called Cockride, in the marsh. He dying in the reign of Edward IV. it continued in his descendants down to Sir Thomas Cheyney, lord warden, whose son, Henry Cheyney, in the reign of Elizabeth, conveyed it to Francis Barnham, esq. then of London, but afterwards of Hollingbourn. His grandson, Robert, of Boughton Monchensie, held it at the coronation of Charles II. by the service of carrying the last dish of the second course to the king's table, and presenting him with the three maple cups, which he performed by deputy, and three years after was created a baronet. At length his grandson, Sir Robert Barnham, leaving an only daughter and heir, named Philadelphia, she carried this manor in marriage to Thomas Rider, esq. whose son, Sir Barnham, died possessed of the same in 1728. His son, Thomas, performed the same service for this manor at the coronation of George III. The king, upon receiving the maple cups from the lord of this manor, turned to the mayor of Oxford, who had presented him with a gold cup and cover, when the latter received the maple cups in return. Thomas, dying unmarried in 1786, this manor came by will to his second cousin, Ingram Rider, esq. of Lambeth, son of the youngest surviving brother of Sir Barnham, who married Margaret, daughter of Ralph Carr, esq. of Durham, by whom he had several children. A court-baron is held for this manor.

The manor of Bilsington priory was sold by Roger de Somery, under Henry III. to John Mansell, a man of great note in his time, for courage and abilities. He was so wealthy as to entertain at dinner the kings of England and Scotland, accompanied

by so many nobles and guests, that 700 dishes were scarcely sufficient for the first course.

Some years previous to his death, in 1253, he founded a priory for canons regular, of the order of St. Augustine, and gave this manor of Bilsington towards its endowment, to hold in perpetual alms, and not subject to any house whatsoever.

The priory of Bilsington was erected on the north-east part of this manor, and the priors chosen by the convent, who were presented to the patron for his confimation, and installed by the archdeacon, the latter having permission to remain at the priory two nights and a day. In the reign of Edward I. the prior was adjudged to hold a certain portion, by sergeantry, serving the king with his cup on Whitsunday. The whole of these possessions were confirmed by letters of *inspeximus*, in the reign of Edward IV. and so continued till the general visitation of religious houses under Henry VIII. when all the religious left their possessions and habits, among whom were the prior and brothers of Bilsington, who signed their resignation in 1535. This institution was then valued at £69 per annum, clear, and £81 1 6 total annual revenue ; John Moyse, the last prior, having had a pension of ten pounds per annum upon its demolition.

Two years after the surrender of this priory, the king granted a lease of the site, with the lands, &c. and rectory of Bilsington, to Anthony St. Leger, esq. of Ulcombe, and subsequently to Archbishop Cranmer, in exchange for other premises. They still appertain to the primates of Canterbury, the possessors of the manor of Bilsington having always been lessees of the same.

There are no *parochial charities* here, the poor constantly relieved being about twenty, and casually thirty.

Bilsington is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury, and *deanery* of Lymne.

The church, dedicated to Saints Peter and Paul, is a small building, containing one aisle and a chancel, in which latter are four stalls. There does not appear to have been any vicarage to this church, but it was most probably served by a curate; it is now esteemed a perpetual curacy. The yearly value is £30, and in 1640 there were sixty-eight communicants. Great part of the woodland in this parish pays no tithes, as it lies within the bounds of the weald.

In 1821, that portion of the parish of Bilsington, lying in

Newchurch hundred, contained thirty-three dwellings; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of parliament, the numbers were, males 145, females 105, making a total of 250 souls.

Rucking is the next parish westward from Bilsington, situated upon the clay hills. It is written in Domesday *Rochinges*, and now usually called *Rucking*. That part in which the church stands is in the hundred of *Newchurch*, and the other in that of *Ham*, the portion below the hill southward being in the level of Romney Marsh, within the limits and jurisdiction of its justices, and the residue within that of the justices of the county, and district of the weald.

This parish is obscure, and little known, extremely dreary and unpleasant, the roads narrow and bad, and the soil a deep miry clay. The way from Lymne, through Bilsington, Ham Street, and Warehorne, crosses this parish on the side of the clay hill, inclining nearer to the marsh. The church stands on the side of the eminence overlooking the marsh, the northern side being chiefly covered by coppice wood. It contains about 930 acres of upland, and as many of marsh land. There is no regular village, the houses being dispersed about the parish, which are for the most part inhabited by poor people.

In the year 791, Offa gave to Christ church fifteen plough lands in Kent, among which was this estate of Rochinges, together with several demesnes for the feed of hogs in the weald. It was subsequently wrested from the church during the Danish wars, and continued in lay hands at the time of the conquest, soon after which it appears to have been in the possession of Hugo de Montfort, from whom Archbishop Lanfranc recovered it again for his church, in a solemn assembly held on that occasion, by the king's command, at Pinenden heath, in the year 1076. In Somner's Gavelkind is a transcript of a release in the reign of Edward I. of the base services of several of the tenants of this manor, who cancelled the same by purchase, so that it was a mere exchange from service into money, by the mutual consent of lord and tenant. Edward II. granted to the prior and convent of Christ church *free warren* in all their demesne lands in Rucking; and in that state this manor continued till the suppression of the priory, when it passed to Henry VIII. who

settled it by his dotation charter on his new erected dean and chapter of Canterbury, part of whose possessions it remains. There is no court held for this manor.

The other part *of this parish,* not included in the grant of King Offa, appears to have been that which Cuthred king of Kent, in the year 805, gave to Aldbertht his servant, and Seledrythe the abbot. After the conquest, Hugo de Montfort possessed some of the lands granted by Offa, and also recovered, at the great meeting at Pinenden heath, the residue, which remained in his possession, and were entered in Domesday under the general title of his lands.

In this part of the estate was the Manor of Westberies, or *Rokinges,* which appears to have been considered as a moiety of the manor of Rucking. The former of those names was probably taken from its owners, and became extinct previous to the reign of Henry IV. when it passed into the family of Prisot, and under Henry VI. was possessed by John Prisot, in whose descendants it continued down to Henry VIII. At the latter period, Thomas Prisot passed it to George Hount, who sold it in the reign of Elizabeth to Reginald Stroughill, usually called Struggle, a name of ancient extraction, in *Romney Marsh.* In the last-mentioned reign it was sold to one Pearse, who alienated this property, being held *in capite,* to Richard Guildford, and Bennet his wife, who, being indicted for not taking the oath of supremacy, fled the realm, when they were attainted of treason, upon which these lands became forfeited to the crown. Queen Elizabeth, in 1597, granted the fee of this manor to Walter Moyle, gent. who soon after sold it to Francis Bourne, esq. of Sharsted, in whose descendants it remained till the reign of Charles I. It was then sold to the Parker's, when John of that name alienated the manor in 1706 to Edward Andrews, of Hinxhill. His daughter, Susannah, married George Panns of this parish, who left a daughter, and she marrying, first, John Gray of Canterbury, and secondly, Thomas Ibbott, entitled each of her husbands, in turn, to the possession of this estate. On her death, without issue, her heirs, on her mother's side, to the number of more than thirty, claimed the inheritance, and in them it became vested.

The Manor of Bardinden, or Barbodindenne, was most probably situated in this part of *Rucking,* and so

called from a family bearing that name. William de Barbodindenne held it at his death in the reign of Edward III.; in whose descendants it remained till it was alienated to Sir Robert Belknap, who, being attainted under Richard II. his estates became forfeited, but the king considering him a martyr to his interests, again granted him these estates, whereof he died possessed in the reign of Henry IV. John, grandson of the above, under Henry VII. alienated this estate to the Engham's; in which line it remained till the period of Henry VIII. when it was sold to Sir Matthew Browne, of Beechworth, who held it *in capite* in the reign of Philip and Mary. His grandson, Sir Thomas, passed it by sale, under Elizabeth, to Thomas Lovelace, esq. who was succeeded by William; when the property descended to Richard Lovelace, who, after the death of Charles I. alienated this, and his estates at Bethersden, to Mr. Richard Husse, afterwards of Lovelace place, in that parish. However, where this manor was situated, or who have been the proprietors since, cannot now be ascertained.

Poundhurst *is a manor* situated a mile north-west of the church, and belonged, in 1651, to Richard Watts, who sold it to the Gadsley's; whence it passed to the Hatche's; and then to the Read's and Clarke's of Ashford. Grace Clarke carried it in marriage to the Rev. Thomas Gellibrand, who at her death in 1782, gave it by will to her son, the Rev. Joseph Gellibrand, of Edmonton.

The Manor of More was anciently possessed by a family of that name; one of whom, named Mathew, held it by knight's service in the reign of Edward III. It then passed to the Brent's, who possessed it under Henry VII.; when Thomas, of that line, dying in 1612, he gave this manor by will to his nephew, Richard Dering, esq. of Pluckley; in whose descendants it remained down to Sir Edward Dering, bart. of Surrenden.

This Parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury, and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to St. Magdalen, is a very small building, having a pointed tower and slender spire. In the aisle is a large white stone, with the figures of a man and woman in brass, very much dilapidated, there being no other memorials. This structure contains a very curious Saxon arched doorway, with carved capitals, and rich sculpture beneath the arch. The church of

Rucking seems to have belonged to the see of Canterbury since the period of Archbishop Lanfranc, when that primate restored it to this church ; who, on allotting the same to the priory and monks of Christ church, most probably retained the advowson to himself.

This is a rectory, and valued in the king's books at £14 13 4, and the yearly tenths at £1 9 4. In 1588, it was valued at £100 ; and, in 1640, at £85, the communicants being 100. Appendant to the same are eighteen acres of glebe land. No pay is taken in kind, and the other tithes are mostly compounded for. From the result of a suit in the Exchequer for tithes of wood, brought by Mr. Lodge, the rector, against Sir Philip Boteler, it was decreed against the rector, that this parish, being within the bounds of the weald, was consequently freed from all wood tithes.

In 1821, there were forty-six dwellings in the parish of Rucking ; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow : males 177, females 154, making a total of 331 souls.

ROMNEY MARSH.

This district was known to the Anglo-Saxons by the name of *Merscwarum*, and, in 795, by that of *Merscware*, the inhabitants being then called *Viri Palustres*, or Men of the Marsh or Fen. When first known by the Romans under the title of *Rommene*, or *Romney*, is uncertain; however, the earliest mention made of it by that name, was in 895, in a grant of Plegmund, then archbishop, of land called *Wesingmersc*, described as situated near the river *Rameneia*. In order to reconcile the several names applied to this stream, it is most probable it had different appellations in various parts of its currents. For instance, near the spring head, it was denominated *Rother;* lower down, along the branch that separated at Apledore to Stutfall, *the Limen;* and in this part, near Romney, as above, *Rumeneia;* the whole, however, might have borne the general name of *Limen*, from that principal part, where the Roman *Portus Lemanis* was situated, and by which name alone the whole district and principal town seems, from that period, to have been known.

A variety of opinions have been formed as to the origin of *Romney Marsh*, some conceiving that it was originally submerged by the ocean, and subsequently left dry; others, that it was only a swamp, partially covered by the tides and waters of the Limen, or Rother. The latter stream was, in ancient times, a large navigable river, which, having its source in Sussex, flowed to Apledore, where, dividing into two channels, one branch flowed eastward, under the hills of Rucking and Bilsington, on that side of the marsh under Lymne hill, and by Stutfall castle, and so to the ocean by West Hythe. The other ran eastward from Apledore, traversing the marsh to Romney, and there formed a haven, emptying itself into the sea, at which period the tide operated much higher than Apledore, for, so late as the period of Edward III. it ran with such rapidity to Newenden, that the bridge was broken down, and the lands contiguous were completely

overflowed. Under Alfred, this river was of such importance that, in 893, the Danes sailed as high as Apledore with 250 ships, and there entrenched themselves. The first-mentioned branch of this stream was probably, soon after the abandonment of the island by the Romans, swerved up and rendered useless above West Hythe, which afterwards became a noted haven at its mouth; but the river taking another course, and being also deserted by the sea, the channel became dry land, as may be traced along its course to the present day, under the hills from West Hythe to Apledore. The other branch, flowing from the last-mentioned place to Romney, for four miles, appears, from being navigable for so numerous a fleet, to have been of consequence, and, on the failure of the other stream, to have increased in magnitude, forming at its mouth a commodious port near the latter place. However, when the dreadful tempest occurred, under Edward I. which swept away villages, and completely changed the face of the country, the waters, being forced from their channel, and the mouth choked up by the sand, formed a new passage from Apledore, south-westward towards Rye, where the stream now empties itself, being a river of very little importance.

The bed of this current, as previously observed, is very apparent, and, long previous to the overflow above mentioned, the proprietors of estates there, being apprehensive respecting the safety of the same, began to form embankments against the waters and tides of the sea; since it appears that, under Henry I. the prior of Christ church bound his tenants to repair and maintain those bulwarks against the frequent inundations that took place. Yet, notwithstanding such precautions, and attempts to force the return of the river to its original course, under Edward III. all endeavours were abandoned, and the old channel granted by that monarch to the archbishop, with licence to dam it up. There was a second trench leading from the Romene, but it did not long continue of use, as the same violent eruptions of the sea by the harbours of Rye and Winchelsea had forced a passage for the Limen, or Rother, mingling its current with that æstuary; wherefore, wholly breaking off its accustomed current between Apledore and Romney, the whole was obstructed and closed up by the sand and beach, and, in process of time, presented a tract of dry ground, as it appears at the present day.

Romney Marsh presents an expanded view of level soil, occupying the southern coast of Kent, between the upland hills and the sea-shore. It is ten miles in length from east to west, and four at the broadest part from north to south. It contains four districts, comprehended under the above title, having separate jurisdictions, namely: Romney marsh, under its own constitution, extending westward to Rhee wall; Walland marsh, next adjoining, westward; Denge marsh, with Southbrooke, to the south; and Guildford marsh, mostly in Sussex; which three are under the jurisdiction of separate commissioners of sewers. Romney marsh comprises 23,925 acres, and the remaining three districts 22,666 acres, the whole of which, within the county of Kent, contain two corporate towns and sixteen parishes. The following is a list of all the places of any account situated within the boundaries of Romney marsh: Belgrove, Blackmanstone, Brenset, Broadbull, Bromhill, or Promhill, Butler's bridge, Capel's court, Cheyney court, Cockerel's bridge, Denge marsh, Dengeness, Dymchurch, Fairfield, Hope, West Hythe, Ivy church, Longport, New Longport, Lydd, Saint Mary's, Midley, Moor court, Nesh or Nesse, Nod, Orlaston, Old Romney, New Romney, Rucking, partly in the marsh, Scotney, Snargate, and Snave.

The lands of these districts differ very much in fertility, some being remarkably productive, and others equally barren. The oxen fed here are not numerous, but the sheep in vast numbers, being, on an average, three to every acre. They are much larger than the down or west country breed, but not so large as those of Lincolnshire, and in parts of Norfolk. Few hedges or trees are to be seen, the grounds being separated by ditches and rail fences. The roads, which are spacious, consisting merely of marsh land fenced off, and the soil very deep, renders travelling extremely unpleasant after the least rain. The villages consist of a few cottages contiguous to their churches, and present a very mean appearance. The unhealthful air renders the population thin, which generally consists of individuals of very mean condition, expressly hired to superintend the grounds and sheep, the owners generally residing in the adjacent towns and upland country. Considering the extent of this marsh, but little land is ploughed, though much more than was formerly the case.

Under Henry III. there were twenty-four jurats elected by the

commonalty, and sworn to do the best for the preservation of the marsh from overflowings of the sea and the Limene, having power to raise a tax for that purpose, which was confirmed by letters patent, dated the 36th of the above reign. From subsequent ordinances, under Richard II. and Henry IV. and VI. it is obvious, that unceasing assiduity was displayed for preserving this spacious and fertile marsh; while, in the 1st of Edward IV. the jurats were incorporated into one body, having power to purchase lands and tenements, possess a common seal, and hold a court every three weeks, &c. and this, as the letters patent mention, was granted to invite men to reside upon the marsh, then much deserted, owing to the danger resulting from foreign invasions, and the unwholesomeness of the soil and situation.

By the charter of incorporation above alluded to, this district, called *the Liberty of Romney Marsh,* containing nine parishes, and three others, the churches of which are in ruins, is at present governed by a bailiff, twenty-four jurats, and the commonalty; the justices ruling over this jurisdiction exclusive of all others, but in nowise concerned in the reparation of the walls, or drainage of the soil. To manage and direct the latter, power is vested, by ancient custom, in the lords of twenty-three manors, in and adjunct to the marsh; who, with the bailiff and jurats of the corporation of the marsh, having one vote, are called *Lords of the Marsh.* The manors above alluded to are the following: *Aldington; Blackmanstone; Bilsington, super; Bilsington, infer; Bonnington; Burmarsh; Craythorne; Eastbridge; Eastwell; Falconhurst; Horton; Honychild; Kenardington; Newington Fee; Orlestone; Packmanstone; Rucking; Snare; Street; Tinton; Warehorne; Court at Wicke;* and *Willop.*

The above appoint a bailiff as chief supervisor of the works, who is generally approved of, and also appointed bailiff of the corporation of the marsh, the jurats whereof are equally nominated jurats, by the lords above alluded to, for the view of reparations, &c. For the above purposes courts are convened called the lath, at Newhall and Dimchurch a general lath being annually held on Whit Thursday, when every business relating to the walls, drainage, and the levying of Scots, is transacted. Other meetings take place in March and at Michaelmas, to settle the accounts, contract for materials, &c.

Dymchurch Wall, the grand bulwark against the encroachments of the sea, is in length about 1060 rods, commencing three miles west of Hythe, and extending to the village of Dymchurch. It comprises a vast body of earth defended towards the sea by numerous rows of strong piles, to which are fastened planks and faggots, forming a raddlework, with sluices at certain distances, for effectually draining the marsh, which it encloses; the whole being so contrived, that the shingle and sand thrown up by the waves increase the security of the embankment.

Since the completion of the above work, the lands have become almost incalculably more valuable than before; and an Act of Parliament was obtained to encourage their further improvement, by granting privileges to persons inclined to settle upon this district. The inhabitants, in addition to the royal grant above referred to, have laws and regulations for the distribution and settlement of the rights of pasturage, and the maintenance of the embankments, sluices, and drains, called *The Statutes of Sewers*, said to have been originally framed by Henry de Bathe, a justiciary specially appointed for that purpose, under Henry III., all affairs relative to the property and jurisdiction of the marsh, its embankments and drains, being still regulated by the members of its corporation, dignified by the title of *Lords of the Level.*

It must have been by slow degrees that Romney marsh acquired sufficient solidity of turf to bear large cattle, without frequent accidents from the numerous bogs wherewith for a length of time, the more compact parts were interspersed; for, even to the present period, the numbers of cows and horses to be seen throughout this extensive tract, as before observed, bear a very small proportion to the sheep, abounding in every direction. The latter, bred in the marsh, are remarkable for the excellence of their wool. It is the usual practice of the breeders to drive their lambs to pasturage in the high grounds, on the approach of winter, as they would otherwise be liable to disease. Early in the spring, when the ground has become dry, the flocks are driven back to these rich marshes, where they soon thrive prodigiously. Those parts of the district which are cultivated, are, generally speaking, highly productive; and hops are planted (but not very extensively) even near the sea-side, where they

arrive at perfection, as well as in many of the inland districts, provided they are sufficiently sheltered from the wind.

Peat is found at various depths, in almost every direction; and the numerous drains and deep trenches whereby the whole is intersected, cause more of that substance to be discovered than in almost any other part of England. The wood found imbedded therein is in many instances very firm and hard, and as black as ebony. There can be no doubt but the extensive woody tract described by ancient writers as having stretched from *Portus Lemanus*, to the distance of 120 miles in a north-western direction, through Surrey and Berkshire, into the very heart of the country, in early times covered a portion of Romney marsh, as not only have large trunks of trees been found buried beneath its surface, but here and there starting as it were from the beds of shingle wherewith it is irregularly patched.

The Royal Military Canal forms an indented line along the verge of Romney marsh, from Scot's Float, on the borders of Sussex, a distance of twenty-three miles, its breadth being about thirty feet, and its depth six. A breastwork is thrown up throughout the whole line, the flanks are batteries *en barbette* for cannon, and at several places there are embrasures in the faces of the work, to supply the want of flanks, which, from the nature of the ground, could not be constructed. The canal terminates under a fort, upon a projecting ledge between Shorncliffe and the sea-shore, admitting a passage over it for the road to Sandgate, by means of a drawbridge, which, together with the work adjoining, towards the canal, was completed in 1812, by the Royal Staff corps. The contiguous battery farther on, was commenced in the year 1809, under the direction of General Twiss, intended to have mounted twelve twenty-four pounders, but, in consequence of the termination of the war, has been left incomplete.

In addition to the formidable fort above mentioned, it was intended to erect a detached bastion, or redoubt, on Boy hill, at the west end of Sandgate, between the Martello-tower, No. 7, and the beach, the same to have mounted seven twenty-four pounders, ground having been purchased by government for that purpose.

The canal was stocked with fish in 1806, and having been

carefully guarded, abounds with large carp, tench, perch, pike, eels, and every other species of freshwater fish.

We were informed by a farmer on Romney marsh, that this military canal, which was cut at an enormous expense, from Hythe to Rye harbour, has never been of utility ; however, another gentleman, who seemed to have much business in these parts, assured us that, by opening the flood-gates at each extremity of the canal, a considerable quantity of water is drained from the marsh during the period of low tide. The two noted reservoirs of fresh water at Dungeness are also of infinite value in supplying the shipping with that most indispensable article.

The particular point, called Pinnock's Beacon, is now in the proprietorship of Mr. Cooke, the celebrated agriculturist.

In 1821 the united parishes of Romney Marsh contained 4200 dwellings, and at the same period, when the last census of the population of this liberty was taken by order of parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as under: males 12,736, females 12,684, making a total of 25,420 souls.

WALLAND MARSH.

This tract is an extensive level of marsh land, included under the general title of Romney Marsh, and occupies the western side of Rhee wall. It contains 16,489 acres; the adjoining small level of Dengemarsh, 2912 acres, and that of Guilford, mostly in Sussex, 3265 acres; being bounded by Rhee wall, to the east; the towns of Lydd and Dengemarsh, to the south; Guilford marsh and Sussex, to the west; and Apledore channel, and the uplands, to the north.

This marsh was never included in the ordinances passed for the preservation of that of Romney, or ranked in its liberty, but continued within the jurisdiction of the justices of Kent. No certain law therefore existing for its management and defence, great inconvenience was frequently experienced; to remedy which, Edward I. appointed commissioners, who ordained that within the limits of the marsh, beyond the watercourse of Romney port, jurats should be named to consider how much would be requisite for repairing the embankments, according to the value of the number of acres, to be maintained in conformity with the ordinance of Henry de Bathe.

All the laws, ordinances, and customs, relating to Romney marsh, at length came into such high repute, that Henry VI. having in parliament considered the immense damages sustained by overflowings of the waters in various parts of the realm, granted that several *commissions of sewers* should remain in force for ten years, consisting of noblemen, gentry, and others, who had power to enact statutes for preserving the sea embankments, according to the laws and customs of Romney marsh. One of the above commissions was granted for the level of Walland, Dengemarsh, with Southbrooks adjoining, and Guildford marshes; the same being renewed every ten years, and by which laws they are regulated to the present time.

Walland marsh extends four miles in breadth, from east to west, and five miles in length, from north to south, containing within its bounds the towns and parishes of Fairfield, Brookland,

and Midley, with part of those of Apledore, Snargate, Ivychurch, Old and New Romney, and Lydd, the churches of which stand in other districts. Although lying very little lower than Romney marsh, owing to a mismanagement in the drainage, parts are very subject to inundations, and many acres remain under water the major part of the year; notwithstanding this, however, the soil is in general extremely productive, perhaps even more so than any part of Romney marsh. Very little land is ploughed in this district, which lies extremely unsheltered, excepting near Brookland and Old Romney, those parts being screened by trees. In other respects, Walland marsh resembles that of Romney already described.

During the summer season, when these extensive levels are clothed with luxuriant verdure, and abound with herds of cattle, and innumerable flocks of sheep, the whole presents the most beautiful appearance from the adjacent heights, conveying at the same time a just idea of the fertility and riches wherewith this portion of the county of Kent so preeminently abounds.

THE ISLAND AND HUNDRED OF OXNEY

Lies at the south-west boundary of this county, adjoining Sussex, from which, by the uplands of Kent, and Walland marsh, it is separated by the river Rother. The main channel of this stream, till within these few years, was on the north side, by Smallhythe and Reading, and though now nearly choked up, was in 1509, from the tide flowing into its channel at that period, navigable. It was found necessary for the discharge of the waters of the Rother, which then overflowed the adjoining marsh, to make a new channel through Wittersham level, and the course of the river was for five miles diverted; when, instead of running from Maytham to Smallhyth and Reading, eastward, on the north, it now runs thence to Maytham westward, into the new channel above mentioned, along the southern side of this island, into the Appledore channel, where it meets the sea at Rye.

This island is called in Domesday *Oxenai*, and in other ancient records, both *Oxene*, and *Oxenel*, and is supposed to have derived the name from its foul and miry situation. Some conceive the name to have arisen from the number of oxen fed there, and perhaps this latter opinion is most probable, by the figure of an ox on the sides of the ancient altar, which remained in the church of Stone in this island. It was removed from that structure, and converted into a horse block, by which it was much defaced, and cracked. The late Mr. Gostling, a great lover of antiquity, caused the same to be repaired, and placed in his vicarage garden. No inscription or letters appear upon this vestige of antiquity, but an ox, in relief, on each of the four sides. The basin, or hollow at top, retains a blackness, as if burnt, from the operation of fire, occasioned by the sacrifices offered upon this altar.

Leland says, part of this island, if not all, was formerly in Sussex, "yet parte of Oxney ys in Kent, and parte in Southsax. Sum say that yt is, or hath bene al in Southfax; sum caulle it

Forsworen Kent, by cause that wene the inhabitantes of yt were of Southfax, they revolted, to have the privileges of Kent."

It is nearly of an oval form, about six miles in length from east to west, and three from north to south, being ten miles in circumference. A ridge of hilly upland runs through the centre of the island, but the surrounding parts are low and marshy, very fertile, and famous for fine grass. There were formerly two ferries, one from Smallhythe, the other from Appledore, and another also at the west end, called Maytham ferry; instead of which, there are now four small wooden bridges, whereby you enter this district.

The Hundred of Oxney extends over the whole island, and contains within its bounds the parishes of Stone, Wittersham, and part of Eveney, with the churches of those parishes. One constable presides over the whole; the manor of Aldington claiming over the largest part of this hundred. A court-leet is held here annually.

Stone, called, from the Saxon, *Stane*, signifying a stone, or rock, lies in the south-east part of the island of Oxney. The village and church of Stone stand together in the middle of the parish, on the elevated ground which runs through the centre of the same, and below the land is rich and fertile. It extends both towards Wittersham and Ebeney, as far as the streams at the boundary of the island, being three miles in length from east to west, and two and a half from north to south. There are some coppice lands in different parts. This village was, in 991, completely destroyed by the Danes. A fair is held here on Holy Thursday.

The manor of Aldington claims over the greater part, another portion is within the manor of Snavewick, or Court at Wick, and a third in that of Wingham, near Canterbury.

Apdale is a small manor in this parish: the stone mansion has been long in ruins, and the site, which is still remaining, appears to have been large. The demesnes are now added to a farm called Prauls, situated about a mile westward from the church. The only mention made of this manor is in the will of Mr. Thomas Stace, who resided and died there in the year 1512, leaving it to his son, John; it afterwards became, together with Prauls, the property of Richard Grave, esq. of London, whose ancestors had possessed it for a considerable time. He, dying

unmarried in 1792, devised it to Mr. Wm. Jemmet and Mr. Wm. Marshall, when the former subsequently became possessed of the whole.

This PARISH is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a handsome building, with three aisles and chancels, in one of the latter of which is a memorial to Sarah, daughter of Henry Tighe, who married George Carter, esq. of Kennington, and died in 1763.

The church of Stone was part of the ancient possessions of the monastery of St. Augustine, which, with the advowson of the vicarage, remained with this monastery till its final dissolution under Henry VIII. when that monarch settled this valuable property upon his newly erected dean and chapter of Canterbury.

In 1384, this church or rectory appropriate was valued at £20, but, in the 30th of Henry VIII. it was demised by the abbot and convent, together with all tithes, fruits, and emoluments, to John Stilley, on a lease for twelve years, at the yearly rental of £16 1 8. It was then demised on a beneficial lease by the dean and chapter, at the same yearly rent, when Sir Edward Hales, bart. of St. Stephen's, became the lessee of the same.

This vicarage is valued in the king's books at £17 12 8½, and the yearly tenths at £1 15 3½. In 1587 it was valued at £50, the number of communicants being 160. In 1640 the estimation was only £40, and the communicants eighty-seven. By a survey of this parsonage in 1650, it consisted of one close called glebe land, containing three acres, upon which the parsonage barn, then much decayed, stood, the whole being worth £5 per annum. It is now of the annual value of £150, and about £90 clear income. There are four acres of glebe land appertaining to this living.

In the year 1735, disputes having arisen between the vicar and his parishioners, as to the manner of paying vicarial tithes for the grass lands in this parish, an award was made the following year, whereby those lands were adjudged, and have ever since paid to the vicar 1s. 6d. per acre, in money, for all tithes whatsoever.

Land, and wood, containing two acres, was given to find a

lamp for this church, whence it took the name of Lampfield. This custom was suppressed in the reign of Edward VI.

In 1821 there were twenty-three dwellings in the parish of Stone, and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 232, females 193, making a total of 425 souls.

Wittersham lies the next parish westward from *Stone*, being generally called *Witsham*. This place partakes of the unhealthy air of the adjoining marshes, and is about two miles and a half across in either direction, the village, with the church and parsonage, standing nearly in the middle, upon higher ground. It joins Stone by a large tract of marsh land, which reaches the extremity of the island, excepting where it joins the parish of Ebeney, towards the north-east. At the west end of the high ground is a hamlet called *Pinyon Quarter*, in which stands *Palstre Court*, and several other houses. The soil is a kind of loam, which in some places has the quarry or sand stone, mixed with it. There is likewise a little coppice wood. A fair is held yearly on the 1st of May.

The Manor of Aldington claims over the greater part of this parish, and the manor of Lambin, in Rolvenden, over another district therein; while, *subordinate* to the former is the manor of Wittersham.

Wittersham was given, in the year 1032, to Christ church Canterbury, for fosterland, that is to say, "for food and sustenance of the monks, by Eadoy a priest, with the consent of King Canute, and Elfgive his queen; but no mention is made of that church having been possessed of the same. However, in later times this manor appears to have become a lay fee, since we find that King Henry IV. granted license to Richard Lentwardyn and John Hurleigh, clerks, to give and assign to the master and fellows of All Saints college, in Maidstone, the manor of *Wyghtnesham*, among other premises in this county. This manor continued in the possession of the college till its suppression under Edward VI. in 1546, at which time it was let to Sir Thomas Wyatt, at the yearly rent of £14, when the manor house, or court lodge, acquired the name of Wittersham College.

Passing to the crown, it was soon after granted to Sir Henry Crispe, of *Quekes*, who settled it on his son Nicholas, of Grimgill, in Whitstable, who possessed it only for his life, during which there appears to have been a suit at law concerning the title. It went upon his death to Thomas Parrot and Thomas Shirley, who were found to be the coheirs of his daughter Dorothy, who held their separate moieties *in capite* from Queen Elizabeth, and alienated this manor previous to the end of her reign, to Thomas Bishop, esq. of Sussex. He left one son, Edward, and two daughters, on the youngest of whom he settled this estate, and she marrying, in the reign of James I., John Alford, son of Edward, of Offington, in Sussex, his youngest daughter and coheir, Elizabeth, in 1659, married Charles Bickerstaffe, esq. of Wilderness, in Seale, whom she survived. In the reign of Anne, having obtained an Act, conjointly with her only daughter and heir, to alienate this estate to Mr. William Blackmore, gent. of Tenterden, in 1707, he gave it by will to his nephew, John, from whom it subsequently descended to Thomas Blackmore, esq. of Briggins, in Hertfordshire.

The Manor of Palster, or *Palstre*, called in ancient writings *the denne of Palstre*, is situated in the western part of this parish, though it extends into that of Ebeney. At the survey of Domesday, it was part of the possessions of the bishop of Bayeux, under the general title of whose lands it was therein entered. On the disgrace of that ecclesiastic, the *Seignory paramount* of this manor was granted to the family of Crevequer, of whom it was held by a family, who thence derived its name. One of the latter, named Philip de Palstre, held it by knight's service under Henry III. as did his descendant, Thomas de Palstre, in the reign of Edward III. It soon after passed into the family of Basing, who held it, together with a moiety of the passage of Smallhythe ferry, adjoining. From the above name it soon after passed into that of Charles and Richard; Charles died possessed of the same, with the moiety of the above passage annexed, in the reign of Richard II. which he had held *in capite*, as did his nephew, Richard, who was his successor. His heir, Robert, dying, his two sisters became possessors of this manor, when Alice entitled her husband, William Snaith, esq. to the same; in whose descendants it continued till the reign of Edward IV. when it passed to Robert Wooton,

esq. of Addington, who died possessed of this estate. In what manner it passed from his heirs is not known, but we find it soon after in the family of Peckham ; when, in the reign of Henry VII. Catherine, widow of James Peckham, died possessed of the manor. Her son, Thomas, held it *in capite* in the reign of Henry VIII. who, leaving one son and daughter, the latter marrying Sir George Harpur, he inherited the property. He shortly afterwards alienated this estate to Sir Thomas Wyatt, who did the same in favor of Robert Rudston, esq.; when the latter, in the reign of Edward VI. had his lands *disgavelled*, and being attainted of high treason, in the concern of Sir Thomas Wyatt's rebellion against Queen Mary, this manor became vested in the crown, where it remained till the reign of Elizabeth. An Act was then passed for restoring him in blood and to his estates, when he again possessed it, and levied a fine. At length his grandson, Robert Rudston, under Charles I. alienated this manor to Sir Edward Henden, a baron of the Exchequer, who, in 1662, gave it to his nephew, Sir John, in whose descendants it continued till it was sold, in the reign of George I. to Thomas May, esq. of Godmersham. He died possessed of this estate in 1781, as did his son and heir, Thomas, of Godmersham, in 1794, who demised it by will to his wife, Catherine Knight, for life, with remainder to Edward Austen, esq. of Rolling.

Owlie, anciently written *Ovely*, is another manor in this parish, having had owners of this name, in which family it was vested till the reign of Richard II. It then passed to that of Odiarne, an ancient race of some renown, whose arms are painted on the window of the north chancel of the church. In this family it continued till the reign of Henry VIII. when Thomas Odiarne appears, by his will, to have died possessed of this estate, and resided at his mansion house of *Acteden*, now called *Acton*, in this parish. Owlie was soon after sold to John Maney, esq. of Biddenden, whose descendant, Sir John, under Charles I. passed it by sale to Peter Ricaut, esq. who also sold it to Mr. Menell, of London. At length, after some intermediate owners, it became the property of Thomas May, esq. afterwards Knight, whose son and successor, Thomas, bequeathed it to his widow, Mrs. Catherine Knight, of this place, in 1794.

Wittersham is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, which is exempt from the jurisdiction of the archdeacon, is dedicated to St. John the Baptist. It is a handsome building, consisting of two aisles and two chancels. The north chancel is now called Acton chancel, having belonged to that manor; in the east window of which were formerly the arms of Wotton. There is also a legend, with the name of Pittesden, who formerly owned lands in this parish; while near the entrance were the arms and name of Odiarne. The church of Wittersham is part of the ancient possessions of the see of Canterbury, and so continues at the present time, his grace, the archbishop, being patron of the same.

The rectory of *Wittersham* is valued in the king's books at £15 8 6½, and the yearly tenths at £1 10 10½. In 1588, it was valued at £160, the communicants being 215. There are ten acres of glebe land appendant to this living.

In 1821, there were 141 dwellings in the parish of Wittersham; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 463, females 448, making a total of 911 souls.

Ebeney is the next parish north-eastward from Wittersham. That portion in the island of Oxney, is within its hundred, and the eastern division of the county; the remainder, without the island, is within the borough of Reading, and in the western division of the county, the hundred of Tenterden, and division of the justices of that corporation; the liberty of which, and of the Cinque Ports, claim over the same.

The largest part of this parish lies within the island of Oxney, which comprises a large level of marsh land, bounded on the north-east by the river Rother, and on the south and west by a small rill, which separates it from the parishes of Stone and Wittersham.

The northward part of this parish, outside the island north of the Rother, contains the hamlet of Reading Street, adjoining the parish of Tenterden, wherein there are ten houses, and five more within the island. It is very low, and extremely unhealthy, being enveloped by wet and swampy marshes, and the vapours arising encompassing it with continual fogs.

The above district is within the paramount manor of Aldington,

although the manor of Palstre, in the adjoining parish of Wittersham, extends into it; *subordinate* to the former of which, is

The Manor of Ebeney Priory, was given about the year 832 by Athalf, or Ethelwulph, king of England, to the priory of Christ church, in Canterbury. Thomas Goldstone, one of the priors, in the reign of Henry VII. built many new churches in Ebeney manor, which, from long possessions, obtained the name of *Ebeney Priory*. At the dissolution, in the reign of Henry VIII. it passed to the king, and was granted the following year to Walter Hendley, esq. who died under Edward VI. having previously settled this property on Anne, one of his coheirs. On her marriage with Richard Covert, esq. of Slaugham, in Sussex, his descendant, Thomas, leaving an only daughter and heir, Diana, she carried it in marriage to John Palgrave, esq. of the Inner Temple; when, by a decree of the court of Chancery, it became vested in John Grundy, who, with Richard Blythe, in 1707, conveyed it by sale to William Blackmore, whose descendant, Thomas, afterwards inherited this manor.

Woodrove, another manor in this parish, was once part of the possessions of the abbot and convent of Robertsbridge, where it so remained till the suppression, under Henry VIII. It then passed to the king, and was granted soon after, with all its appurtenances, to Edward Godfrey, of Apuldore, for thirty years, at the yearly rental of £5 13 4, ten quarters of wheat, ten of barley, two bushels of mustard seed, 120 reeds, and the provision for three horses, from the feast of St. George to that of All Saints. After the suppression of the abbey, the same monarch granted this manor to Sir William Sidney and Anne, his wife, with their heirs male, to hold *in capite*; and, in consideration of a further sum, he accorded a new grant of the same to him and his heirs for ever, to hold by knight's service. He dying in the reign of Edward VI. it passed to his descendant, Robert Sidney earl of Leicester, who, in the reign of James I. obtained letters patent to hold this manor of the king by fealty only, in lieu of all rents and services. The earl soon after alienated the estate to Edward Henden, who, by will, in 1662, devised it to his nephew, Sir John, who sold the same to Mr John Austen, of Tenterden. He dying unmarried, it went to his only surviving brother, Sir Robert Austen, of Hall place, in Bexley; in whose descendants it continued down to Sir Robert Austen, bart. who

died possessed of this property in 1743. Since that period, it has passed in the same way as that of Snavewick, otherwise Court at Week, down to Thomas Stapleton, lord le de Spencer.

Brocket manor had anciently owners of that name, whose arms were carved on the roof of the cloisters at Canterbury. They possessed this estate till the reign of Henry IV. when it was alienated to William Guldeford; in whose descendants it remained till Sir John sold it, under Henry VIII., to Sir John Hales, and he demised the same to his youngest son, Edward; from whom it continued down to Sir Edward Hales, bart. of St. Stephen's.

There is another estate in this parish called Norlands, or Northlands, which Sir Henry Saville, provost, of Eton, &c. under James I. settled upon that University, towards the founding a course of mathematics and astronomical lectures.

There are no *porochial charities* in this parish; the poor constantly maintained are about fifteen, and casually twenty-five.

Ebeney is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, was formerly large, but, under Elizabeth, completely destroyed by lightning. The present fabric is a small mean building, consisting of one aisle and a chancel, always considered as appendant to that of Apledore; the vicar of which church is inducted to the vicarage of Apledore, with the chapel of Ebeney annexed. The parsonage or great tithes, however, of this parish, at the dissolution, came to Henry VIII. and were granted by that monarch, two years after, to the archbishop of Canterbury, who retained it but a short time, for that prelate, keeping Apledore, again granted this rectory to the king. It so continued vested in the crown, till given, with the advowson of the vicarage, to Sir Walter Hendley, to hold *in capite*, who died possessed of the same in the reign of Edward VI. when it passed to Richard Covert, esq. of Sussex, who married Anne, daughter and coheir of Sir Walter, whose son afterwards inherited the same. This parsonage, with the manor of Ebeney, subsequently descended to the Blackmore's, of Hertfordshire.

In 1821, there were nineteen dwellings in the parish of Ebeney; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 89, females 62, making a total of 151 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF HAM.

Is situated north-westward from that of *Newchurch*, and in Domesday is called *Hame*. In the reign of Edward I. it belonged to the king and archbishop of Canterbury. It contains within its bounds the parishes of ORLESTONE and WAREHORNE, and their churches, together with part of the following: viz., KENNARDINGTON, RUCKING, SHADOXHURST, and SNAVE, the churches of the latter being in other hundreds. A court-leet is held for this hundred, being one of the five appendant to the manors of Aldington, which is held alternately at Warehorne and Ham Street.

ORLESTONE, usually called *Orlstone*, is the next parish north-westward from Rucking. It lies mostly on the upland clay hill, within the district of the Weald, and jurisdiction of the justices of the county. The southern district, below the foot of the hill, is within the level of Romney marsh, and the jurisdiction of the justices of the same.

This parish is enveloped in wood, and situated in a country so deep and miry, that it is passable with difficulty in the dryest weather, and consequently but little frequented. The church and court-lodge stand on the clay hills; but there is no village, the greater part being wood land, most of which belongs to the Bouverie's. The whole is gloomy and forlorn, lying within the Weald as far as Ham Street, and upon a level with Romney marsh. The road from Hythe through Bilsington to Warehorne passes a little above the hill, by Ham Street, and another proceeds from the marsh, by Hammill green, traversing the centre of the parish to Sugar-loaf and Bromley green, and thence to Kingsnoth and Ashford; but this road is impassable, except in the dryest seasons. *The manors of Aldington* and *Bilsington* claims over the major part of this parish.

THE MANOR OF ORLESTONE was part of the possessions of Hugo de Montfort, under the general title of whose lands it is entered in Domesday record. Upon the voluntary exile of his

grandson, Robert, under Henry I. this manor became escheated to the crown, when it appears to have passed to a family that derived its name from this place. Their armorial bearings are said to be an allusion to that of Criol, William de Orlanstan having been most probably a descendant from that of William de Orlanstan, who held this manor from Hugo de Montfort, mentioned in the survey of Domesday, as being one of those Kentish gentlemen who assisted Richard I. at the siege of Acre, in Palestine. William de Orlanstan, his son, held this estate under Henry III. and obtained a charter of *free warren*. He died in the reign of Edward I. having held it *in capite* by knight's service.

This manor, with the advowson of the church, continued in his descendants down to Sir Richard Orlanstan, who died in the reign of Henry V. when it passed to his two sisters and coheirs, Margaret, married to William Parker, of Warehorne, and Joan, to Sir William Scott, of Scott's hall, who entitled their respective husbands to the possession of this manor. On the division of their inheritance, it was allotted to the latter, who died possessed of this property in the reign of Henry VI. His eldest son, Sir John Scott, inherited this manor; and from him it descended to Sir Thomas, who, dying in the year 1594, devised a yearly rent charge of £100, out of this estate, to his youngest son, Robert, afterwards of Mersham. By the female line it then became the property of David Papillon, esq. of Acrise, but the *fee*, together with the advowson, descended at length to George Scott, of Scott's hall; who, in the reign of George I. passed it away to Sir Philip Boteler, bart. of Teston. His son died possessed of it in 1772, by virtue of whose will, and a partition of his estates, this manor, with the advowson of the church, passed to William Bouverie, earl of Radnor; and that nobleman, in 1776, bequeathed it to his eldest son, by his second wife, the Hon. William Henry Bouverie. There is no court-leet held for this manor.

Orlestone is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is disused, and adjoins the court-lodge, being a small building, containing one aisle and one chancel. This church has always been considered an appendage to the manor, and under the patronage of the Hon. William Henry,

Bouverie, lord of the manor of Orlestone. It is a rectory, and valued in the king's books at £4 15 9, and is now a discharged living of the clear certified value of £40. In 1588, as well as in 1640, it was valued at £40, the communicants being forty in number.

In 1821, that part of the parish of Orlestone lying in the hundred of Ham, contained forty-nine dwellings; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 128, females 134, making a total of 262 souls.

Warehorne is the next parish south-westward, and that portion situated in the hundred of Ham, wherein the church stands, is in the eastern division of the county, and lath of *Shipway*. The other part, lying in the borough of *Great Benardington*, or *Old Herlackenden*, is in the hundred of *Blackborne*, the western division of the county and lath of *Scray*. The next to the south, in the hundred of Ham, is in the level of *Romney Marsh*, and within the jurisdiction of its justices, and the district of the Weald.

This parish is both unpleasant and unhealthy, partaking of the atmosphere of the marsh, and the soil a deep and miry clay. The village is built round a large green, called the Lecon, or Lecton, whereon stands a handsome house, the property of the Hodges's, whose ancestors resided there for many generations. At a small distance from the Lecon is Warehorne Green, and round it several houses, one of which is the parsonage, and another called Tinton house, the estate belonging to the Howland's. The church stands upon the edge of the hill, overlooking the Marsh; and about a mile north of the church is Ham street, part of which only is in this parish. A mile farther is another small hamlet called Hammill Green, through which passes an execrable road, leading to the upland country. This parish extends northward, by a narrow slip, between Shadoxhurst and Orlestone, as far as Sugar-loaf and Bromley green, the largest part being covered with coppice wood, extending into the marsh, southward to Brooklands, and joining Snare, all above the marsh being within the Weald.

There are two fairs in the year, kept on Ham street green, on the 14th of May, for toys; and on the 2d and 3d of October, on

Warehorne green, for cattle; the profits arising from which belong to the Earl of Thanet.

The first mention made of *Warehorne* is in a charter of King Egbert, who, with Ethelwulph his son, in 820, gave to one Godwine two plough lands, in a place called by the English *Werehornas*, situated among the marshes. It was purchased for one hundred shillings in money, and the boundaries extended on the east part, southward, over the river Limin, to the south Saxon limits. In the year 1010, Archbishop Alphage became possessed of this manor, which he gave to Christ church, in Canterbury, for clothing the monks, and it so continued till the survey of Domesday, when the estate appears to have been dispossessed of this benefit, as it was held of the archbishop by knight's service, by Ansfrid de Dene, in the reign of King John. The latter name became extinct under Henry III. as Richard de Bedeford was then owner of this property, and held it in the same manner. He died possessed of it in the reign of Edward I. and under Edward II. it passed to Hugh de Windlesore, or Windsor, from whom it was alienated under Edward III. to William de Moraunt, of Moraunt's court, in Chevening. To the latter, the above monarch issued an order that there should be but one bell rung in any steeple near the sea-coast. His son, Sir Thomas, left an only daughter and heir, Lora, who carried this estate in marriage, first, to Sir Thomas Cawne, of Ightham, and secondly, to James Peckham, of *Yaldham*, in *Wrotham*. In his name it continued till alienated to the Haut's, whose descendant, Sir William, leaving two daughters his coheirs, Jane, the youngest, carried the property in marriage to Sir Thomas Wyatt, of Allington. He, under Henry VIII. exchanged the estate with the king, for other lands, when it continued vested in the crown till the reign of Elizabeth, who granted it to the Ellis's, from whom it passed by sale to Thomas Paget, and Thomas Twisden. They alienated this property to Sir John Tufton, whose son, Nicholas, was created earl of Thanet, and in his descendants it continued down to Sackville, earl of Thanet. There is no house or court-lodge on this estate.

Tinton, anciently called *Tintenton*, is a considerable manor in the southern part of this parish, the house being near the church, and lying within the level of *Romney Marsh*. This manor was given by William the Conqueror to Hugo de Montfort, being

entered in Domesday under the title of his lands, when it was said to lie in Blackborne hundred. On the exile of his grandson, under Henry I. his possessions devolved to the king, who soon after granted this manor to Robert de Ver, constable of England, and Adeliza, his wife, daughter of Hugo de Montfort. They, in the reign of Henry II. founded the priory at Horton, and endowed it with this manor, which was afterwards confirmed by Henry de Essex, constable of England, and King Stephen. In the reign of Edward III. the prior of Horton appears to have held this estate, of Dover castle, of the king, *in capite*, and in that state it continued till the dissolution, when it passed to Henry VIII. who granted it, with the rest of the possessions, to Archbishop Cranmer. It continued vested in the see of Canterbury till the reign of Elizabeth, at which period the whole again devolved to the crown; when James I. granted this property to Sir William Sidley, of the Friars, in Aylesford. In that name and family it continued down to Sir Charles, bart. of Nuthall, in Nottinghamshire, who alienated this property to Jeremiah Curteis and John Waterman, attornies at law, of Rye, who shortly after conveyed this estate, with the manor, privileges, and immunities, to Sir Edward Dering, to whose son it afterwards descended.

The court-lodge and demesne lands, however, of this manor, were alienated by the above individuals to Mr. John Howland, of this parish, who rebuilt the mansion. He left three sons, Harman, Clarke, and William, and a daughter, Anne, who married Mr. Thomas Hodges, of Warehorne; on the division of whose estates, Harman Howland, the eldest son, became possessed of the mansion of Tinton, with part of the demesne lands, Clarke Howland becoming entitled to the remaining part.

The *manors* of *Ham* and *Capel* lie within this parish, the latter being among the woods, near the northern boundary, and the former on the opposite side of the parish, near Ham green, which place was once of so much note as to give its name to the hundred itself. The whole manor was anciently part of the demesnes of the family of Orlanston, one of whom, William obtained a charter of *free warren* for his lands at Orlanston, Warehorne, and other places, in the reign of Henry III. His descendant, Sir John, in the reign of Richard II. married the daughter of Sir William, at Capel, who was heir to her brother Richard, who died anno 15th of Richard II. and became in her

right entitled to this manor, which had been for many descents in that family. He was succeeded by Richard Orlanston, esq. under Henry V. who leaving two sisters, Joane entitled her husband, Sir William Scott, to these manors, since which this property continued in like succession of ownership as the manor of Orlanston, before described, down to the Hon. William Henry Bouverie.

PARKER'S is another manor, which anciently gave the surname and seat to a family so called. Edward Parker held lands in Westerham, upon whose demise, under Edward II. the estate continued in his line until the time of Henry VIII. It next passed to the Engham's, until the reign of Elizabeth, when it went by sale to the Taylor's, who alienated this property to the Collyns's, of Hythe. It then passed to one Squire, who, at the close of Charles II.'s reign, alienated this estate to William Kingsley, D.D. of Ickham, in whose descendants it continued till 1726, when it passed to Thomas Hodges, gent. of Eleham.

This parish is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury, and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to St. Matthew, is a fine building, containing three aisles and a chancel. At the west end is a square brick tower, erected about fifty years back, in the place of the old one, which had fallen down. Against the wall of the chancel is a head, carved in stone, covered by a monk's cowl, another being also at the spring of the lowermost arch of the north aisle. There is a memento for John Coventry, obit. 1681, and another for Thomas Jekin, 1483; and in the cemetery there are tombs of the Hodges's.

This rectory is in the patronage of the crown, and valued in the king's books at £19; the yearly tenths, £1 18 0; twenty acres of upland, and the same number of glebe land, being appendant to this living. In 1588 there were 160 communicants, the value being £120; it is now estimated at £100.

There is a *modus* of 1s. per acre, on all the marsh land in this district, but the woodland pays no tithe, being in the Weald.

The PRIORY OF HORTON was possessed of A PORTION OF TITHES, arising from their lands of Tinton, which at the sup-

pression devolved to the crown, when they were granted by Henry VIII. to the see of Canterbury. Although the major portion was regranted to the crown, under Elizabeth, yet this portion continued vested as above, and acquired the name of *the rectory of Warehorne*, which it still retains, being, at the present time, part of the possessions of the archiepiscopal see.

In 1821 there were seventy-two dwellings in this parish, and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken, by order of parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 262, females 231, making a total of 493 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF ALOESBRIDGE

Lies next southward from that of Ham, last described; and is written in Domesday record *Adilovetsbrige*, and *Adelovesbrige*, and in other ancient documents, *Alolvesbridge*. Somner is of opinion that the name was derived from some eminent personage, called Alolfe, a name that frequently occurs in Domesday, and other ancient records, as possessors of estates in these parts, under and subsequent to the Saxon heptarchy. This hundred contains within its boundaries the following parishes, Snargate, Fairfield, Brookland, Brenset, and part of Snave; also the churches of the same, with part of the parishes of Ivychurch and Newchurch, their churches being in other hundreds. One constable claims jurisdiction here, the whole lying within the levels of Romney and Walland marshes.

Snargate lies next parish south-westward from Warehorne, the south and east parts being in Romney marsh, and within the liberties and jurisdiction thereof. Another, being the western portion, lies upon the Rhee wall, being within the liberty of the town and port of New Romney, and the division of its justices. The residue, or northern part, is within the jurisdiction of the justices of the county.

The Parish of Snargate lies mostly in Romney marsh, where the village stands, near the end of Rhee wall, beyond which it extends into Walland marsh. It is a forlorn, unhealthy place, and, if possible, worse than the parishes adjoining; the whole presenting one uniform flat of marshes, several of which are poor, and others so low as to become swampy, and covered with flags and weeds, in some measure owing to neglect, and not being properly sowed. This district presents nothing further worthy of notice.

The Manor of Aldington claims over most part of this parish, and the manors of Bilsington, Apledore, and Char-

tham, over other parts of the same. *Subordinate* to that of Aldington was

The Manor of Snargate, anciently held by knight's service, by the Allard's, one of whom, named Gervas Allard, was an admiral under Edward I. whose grandson of the same name died in the reign of Edward III. leaving this property to his widow, Agnes. How long it continued in that line does not appear, but under Edward IV. it was held by the Fane's, and then belonged to a family named Wildgoose, when Alexander so called, conveyed it to William Thwaites, on whose death it went to his daughter, Ursula. By the heirs of the latter it was passed to the Jackman's, and then to Edward Henden, a baron of the exchequer, under Charles I. in whose heirs it remained for some years, but how it afterwards passed, M. Hasted could not ascertain, though every necessary research was made by that industrious historian.

No *parochial charities* exist in this parish, the poor constantly maintained are about ten, and casually five.

Snargate is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury, and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to St. Dunstan, is built of quarry stone, being a handsome structure, containing three aisles and two chancels, with a tower at the west end. The pillars between the aisles are slender and beautiful; independent of an old monument in the north wall, this edifice contains no memorials. The church was part of the ancient possessions of the see of Canterbury, and so continues at the present time. It is a rectory, estimated at £17 6 8; the yearly tenths, £1 14 8. In 1588 the value was £60, communicants sixty; and in 1640 at £70 *per annum*, communicants the same.

In 1821 there were fifteen dwellings in the parish of Snargate, and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of parliament, the number of inhabitants were, males 46, females 47, making a total of 93 souls.

Fairfield lies the next parish westward, in the level of Walland marsh, and in the jurisdiction of the justices of the county.

This Parish is far removed from what its name implies, being dreary in the extreme, and may even rank as the very sink

of the whole marsh, being unsheltered, and divested of a hedge or tree. It lies very low, particularly eastward, so that many hundred acres are completely overflowed in winter, the remainder being a swamp, covered by flags and rushes. The church occupies a small eminence, and is environed by swamps, so that it can only be approached during the major part of the year in a boat, or on horseback, with great danger. The western part, where the court lodge stands, is rather higher, and the soil more productive and dry.

William Selling, prior of Christ church, under Edward IV. by his wise management, and at a vast expense, prevailed upon all persons possessing lands at Apuldre and Fayrefeld, to contribute towards the maintenance of the embankments, &c. which expenditure formerly laid upon the church, and had become an intolerable burthen.

This manor, anciently written *Feyrsfelde*, with the church, was, as far back as the reign of Henry III. part of the possessions of Christ church, Canterbury. Thomas Goodnestone, under Henry VII. erected here a new court lodge, and in that state it remained until the dissolution, when Henry VIII. settled it on his newly erected dean and chapter of Canterbury, in whom it is still vested. A court-baron is held annually by the dean and chapter for this manor. There are no *parochial charities*, the poor constantly maintained are about ten, and casually seven.

This parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury, and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to St Thomas à Becket, is built of brick, being small, and contains an aisle and chancel, with a low wooden turret at the west end. It only possesses one memorial, for Mr. John Beale, of Fairfield, obit. 1775. This church, which is exempt from the jurisdiction of the archdeacon, has uniformly ranked an appendant to the manor. It was appropriated by Edmund, under Henry III. to the almonry of Christ church, and granted by Henry VIII. at the dissolution, to the dean and chapter, who still possess the appropriation and patronage of the same.

The church now ranks a perpetual curacy, of the value of £50, and in 1588 there were thirty-eight communicants.

In 1821 there were nine dwellings in this parish, and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken

by order of parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 44, females 42, making a total of 86 souls.

Brookland derives its name from several brooks, and lies south-eastward in the level of Walland marsh, being subject to the jurisdiction of the county. This parish is situated on higher ground than Snargate or Fairfield, and much drier. The village is neat, and the inhabitants more polished than usually occurs in the marsh. The church occupies the centre, the lands southward being most fertile, as, in the direction of Snargate, they are very poor. The whole consists of marsh land, but few acres being ploughed, and contains altogether about 1730 acres.

An annual fair is held on the feast of St. Peter ad Vincula, August 1, for toys and pedlary.

The Manors of Fairfield, Apledore, Belsington, and Court at Wick, extend over this parish; *subordinate* to which is Brookland Manor, which has long lost the reputation of being such; it anciently belonged to the Passele's, or Pashley's, who possessed it under Edward II. It then passed to Eleanor de Cobham, of Sterborough castle; which family had afterwards summonses to Parliament among the barons of the realm. In the 11th of Edward IV. Sir Thomas Cobham died possessed of this estate, leaving one daughter, who carried the same in marriage to Sir Edward Borough, of Gainsborough, in Lincolnshire, whose son, Thomas, sat in Parliament, as Lord Burgh, or Borough, in the time of Henry VIII. The lands of his son, Thomas, being *disgavelled* under the above reign, his son, William, under Elizabeth, passed this property to the Eversfield's, of Sussex; whence it devolved to the Godfrey's, of Lyd, when this estate lost its name as having been a manor. It then went to the Wood's and Fagge's, and in the latter name continued till 1769, when, by the marriage of a female heir, it passed to Sir John Peachy, bart. No parochial charities exist in this district.

Brookland is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to St. Augustine, is large and handsome, having three aisles and the same number of chancels; it contains several memorials, but of little note. The font is curious, composed of cast lead, with emblematical figures; and, in the churchyard, are several tombs to the memory of the Read's.

This church belonged originally to St. Augustine's, and remained part of its possessions till the final dissolution, under Henry VIII. when, being surrendered, he settled the rectory, &c. on his new erected dean and chapter of Canterbury, in whom they now continue.

In 1384, this church or rectory was valued at £13 6 8, but, under Henry VIII., was demised to ferme at only £8 3 4. The vicarage is valued in the king's books at £17 12 8½, and the yearly tenths at £1 15 3½. In 1587, the estimation was £60; and in 1640 the same. It continued to retain a similar value, the communicants being then 166.

There is a school at this place for teaching reading and writing, supported by contributions, at which fifty children receive instruction.

In 1821, there were seventy-nine dwellings in the parish of Brookland; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 245, females 242, making a total of 487 souls.

Brenset, the next parish north-eastward from Brookland, is on the east side of the Rhee wall, in the level of *Romney Marsh,* and within the liberty of the town and port of *New Romney,* and another part is in the hundred of Aloesbridge, over which the corporation of *Romney Marsh* claims jurisdiction. The north-west part, being in Walland marsh, is under the subjection of the county. This parish is not so fertile as Brookland, being in general open marshy land, and a few houses on either side of the road are the only vestiges of a village. A fair is held on Whit-monday.

The *Manor of Brenset,* called likewise *Newington Brenset,* was, in the reign of Henry VIII. part of the possessions of Thomas Cromwell, earl of Essex. On the attainder of that nobleman, it passed to the crown, where it remained, till Queen Mary granted this manor to Edward lord Saye; from whom it passed to James Drake Brockman, esq. of Beechborough. A court-leet is held for this manor. There was a *Manor of Brenset,* which belonged to the Scott's, and afterwards to the Boteler's; from which family it passed by will to the Hon. William Bouverie. The situation of that estate is, however, now unknown.

Brenset Place is an ancient mansion in the southern part of this parish, and was for many years possessed by the family of Edolph, before its removal to Hinxhill. It was then alienated to the Fagge's, in the reign of James I., in whose descendants it continued down to Sir Robert; who, dying in 1740, his sisters became his heirs. One of the latter married Harris Nash, esq. of Petworth; and the other Sir Charles Goring, by whose heirs this seat, in 1777, was sold to Mr. Henry Read, of Brookland; and he dying, left it to his only daughter, Anne, wife of Thomas Kempe, of Barcombe, in Sussex. This mansion has been for many years made use of only as a farm-house.

Dean, otherwise *Dane Court*, is an estate in the western part of this parish, and once called a manor. It was anciently in the possession of a family that derived its name from this place. Anstridus de Dene appears to have been owner of the same in the reign of Edward I. when it passed to the Apledores. Thomas dying, under Edward III., Elnith, his sister, entitled her husband, Thomas Roper, to this manor; in whose descendants it continued down to Henry lord Teynham, when his heir passed it, in 1705, to Sir Henry Furnes, bart. of Waldershare. The latter died in 1712, when his grandson, Sir Henry, dying under age, unmarried, it passed, upon a division of his estates, to his youngest sister, Selina. She carried it in marriage to Edward Dering, whose son, Sir Edward, of Surrenden, ultimately inherited this estate.

There are no *parochial charities* in this district; the poor constantly relieved are not more than thirty, casually two or three.

Brenset is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church is dedicated to St. Eanswith, having two aisles, and the same number of chancels. There are some monuments to the Fagge's, and burials also entered in the parish register for that family.

The church of *Brenset* anciently belonged to the abbey of Guines, in Artois, and so remained till the reign of Henry V. when it devolved to that king by escheat, on the death of the abbess Catherine. It thus continued until the reign of Henry VI. who granted it to John Kempe, archbishop of York. Upon the suppression, Henry VIII. settled this church and advowson on Walter Bucler, esq. to hold *in capite*; and it so continued down

to James Drake Brockman, esq. of Beechborough, who held the advowson and vicarage.

This vicarage was valued in the king's books at £7 18 11½, and the yearly tenths at 15s. 10½d.; and in 1640 at £80 per annum. It is now at the certified value of £71 6 0½. There is a *modus* of 1s. an acre on all grass lands in this parish.

The whole of the parish of Brenset comprehended in the hundred of Aloesbridge and Romney marsh, in 1821, contained forty-four dwellings; and, at the same period, when the census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers were, males 122, females 116, making a total of 238 souls.

Snave, frequently in ancient writings called *Snaves*, is situated eastward in the level of *Romney marsh*, and within that liberty and jurisdiction. Part is within the hundred of Aloesbridge, and another in that of *Ham*, the remainder being comprised in the hundred of Newchurch. The manor of Ickham, near Canterbury, claims over a small part of this parish. The church stands on the south side of Snave green, but, like Brenset, has no village annexed.

The *Manor of Snave*, or *Snaveleeze*, was held in ancient times by a family of that name; and, in the reign of Richard I. John de Snave held lands here by knight's service of the abbot of St. Augustine. When this name became extinct, it passed to the family of De Sokenesse; John holding it in the reign of Edward III. in the same manner, of the above abbot and convent. It then passed to that of Orlanstone, and thence to the Haut's, till Jane, youngest daughter of Sir William, carried this manor in marriage to Sir Thomas Wyatt, of Allington. He exchanged this property, under Henry VIII. with the crown; in which it remained till the reign of Elizabeth, who granted this manor to John Baptist Castilion and Margaret, his wife, with their heirs, to hold in *feeage*. It then passed to Sir Henry Sidney, lord deputy of Ireland. His son, Robert, earl of Leicester, alienated this manor, at the beginning of the reign of Charles I. to Sir George Stonehouse, bart. of Berkshire, who passed it by sale to Adye: when it was again alienated to John Marsh, esq. of Nethersole, in Wimlingswold; since which, it has descended to John Marsh, esq. of Chichester.

The Manor of Snavewick, called also *the Manor of Court*

at Week, was part of the possessions of St. Augustine's abbey; where it continued till Henry VIII. granted it, by the name of the manor of Snave, or the Court of Wyke, with the advowson of the church, to Walter Hendley, gent. to hold *in capite*; who conveying it back to the crown, it was granted to Archbishop Cranmer. It then passed for a term of years to the Yates's, of Berkshire, and the reversion to Mr. Patrick Blake, of Scotland. He conveyed his interest in this property to Robert Austen, esq. of Hall place, in Bexley; in whom it continued down to Sir Robert, when the latter died possessed of it in 1743. His heir, Sir Robert, dying in 1772, being only tenant for life, the fee of this manor, by bequest, became vested in Francis lord le Despencer, whose sister, Lady Rachael, the testator had married. His lordship dying possessed of this property, in 1781, the title came to his sister, Lady Rachael Austen; but the manor devolved to his relation, Sir Thomas Stapleton, of Grays, in Oxfordshire; when, on the death of Lady Rachael, in 1788, it returned to his heir, Lord le Despencer.

There are no *parochial charities* here; the poor constantly relieved being about three, and casually ten.

This parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to St. Augustine, consists of one aisle and one chancel, being built of sandstone, and embattled. There are several memorials in this edifice to the memory of the Brett's.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at £19 7 11, and the yearly tenths at £1 18 9½. In 1588, the estimate was £80, there being fifty-one communicants. Appendant to the same are nine acres of glebe land. There is a *modus* of 1s. per acre on all the grass lands in this parish.

In 1821, there were thirteen dwellings in the parish of Snave; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 57, females 51, making a total of 108 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF ST. MARTIN'S POUNTNEY

Is adjoining to that of *Aloesbridge*, to the south-east. In the reign of Edward I. the archbishop was lord of this hundred, as being within his manor of Aldington.

Ivychurch lies the next parish south-westward from Snave, and is written in ancient deeds *Eveychurch*, taking its name from its watery situation. The eastern part is in the hundred of St. Martin, and the level of *Romney marsh*, being within the liberty and jurisdiction of its justices. That part upon the Rhee wall is in the liberty of the town and port of New Romney, and the Cinque Ports.

This parish is, in appearance, like all those adjoining the marsh, extending about eight miles from east to west, over the Rhee wall, across Walland marsh to the boundary of this county, at Kent Dyke. The church stands at the east end, in the level of *Romney marsh*; the village is an entire flat of marshes, without a tree or hedge.

The manor of *Aldington* claims over the largest part of this parish; but a small portion is within the manor of Ickham, near Canterbury. *Subordinate* to the former of these manors, is that of

More Court, called the manor of *Court at More*, which name it derived from the family of More, its ancient possessors. This race of De la More, as they were written, was seated here as early as the time of Henry II. and, under Edward III. Thomas de la More married a daughter of the Berenden's, to which place they removed. His descendant, Walter, of More Court, in Berenden, under Henry VII. alienated this manor to the Taylor's, of Shadoxhurst, whose two grandsons, William and John, became joint heirs under Edward VI. It then passed to Peter Godfrey, gent. of Lyd, who died possessed of this property under Elizabeth, and was succeeded by his son, Thomas. It then continued down to Mr. Chamberlaine Godfrey, who

died in 1766, unmarried, when the property passed by will to Mr. Joseph Pinford; and he, in 1787, left this inheritance to his son, Charles.

CAPELL'S COURT is an estate in this parish, deriving its name from a family so called, frequently written *At Capell*, and in Latin *De Capella*. John de Capell, who lived under Henry II. appears by the ledger book of Boxley abbey, to have been a great benefactor here; and his descendant, Richard, son of Sir William, died possessed of this estate in the reign of Richard II. It then passed in the female line to the family of the Herlackendens, of Woodchurch; where it remained till Deborah, daughter and heir of Martin, carried it in marriage to Sir Edward Hales; in whose descendants it continued down to Sir Edward, of St. Stephen's, and then passed to the heirs of Mr. John Bexhill.

Chene Court, generally called *Cheyne Court*, is a manor in the western part of this parish, in the level of *Walland marsh*, and originally in the possession of the see of Canterbury. Archbishop Cranmer exchanged it with Henry VIII. when it continued in the crown till Edward VI. granted it to Sir Thomas Cheney, treasurer of his household. His son alienated it to Richard Springham, William Bird, and Thomas Aldersey, who joined in the sale of *the manor itself*, (from which time it acquired the name of *Old Chene Court*,) to Roberts, of Glastenbury; in which name it remained till alienated to the Russell's. It was then carried by an only daughter to John Knowler, esq. recorder of Canterbury, who died possessed of the same in 1763, leaving two daughters; when the elder marrying Henry Penton, esq. of Winchester, and Mary, the younger, Henry lord Digby, they jointly, in right of their wives, possessed it. It then passed by sale, in 1793, to Mr. Thomas Gascoyne, of Bapchild, who, in 1796, alienated this manor to Mr. William Baldock, of Canterbury; and thence it passed to William Deedes, esq. of Hythe.

The demesne lands of *New Cheyney Court* were alienated to Richard Knatchbull, who dying without issue, his brother, Sir Norton, became his heir; in which name it continued down to Sir Edward, of Mersham hatch. Part of these lands were given by Sir Thomas Knatchbull, at his death, in 1711, to Catherine, his daughter, who married Sir George Rooke, vice admiral of England, and it afterwards acquired the name of *Little Cheney Court*. Sir George died possessed of this estate, when she

marrying the Hon. Dr. Henry Moore, entitled him to the possessions thereof. Since which, it became, by purchase from one Beale, the property of Thomas Blackmore, esq. of Hertfordshire, whose son subsequently inherited this demesne.

There are no *parochial charities;* the poor constantly relieved being about six, and casually twenty.

Ivychurch is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, which is exempt from the jurisdiction of the archdeacon, is dedicated to St. George, and built of sandstone, consisting of three aisles and a chancel. It once possessed some memorials of the Capell's, long since destroyed. This church was part of the possessions of the see of Canterbury, and so remains at the present time. It is a rectory, and valued in the king's books at £44 16 8, the yearly tenths being £4 9 8. In 1588, it was estimated at £170, the communicants being 109. In 1640, the valuation was £250, the communicants fifty-four. There are eleven acres of glebe land appendant to this living.

In 1821, there were twenty-eight dwellings in the parish of Ivychurch; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 132, females 120, making a total of 252 souls.

Saint Mary's, near *New Romney*, called also *St. Marie's Church*, is the next parish south-eastward from *Ivychurch*, being so called to distinguish it from the several other parishes denominated *St. Mary's*, in different parts of this county. It lies in the level of *Romney marsh*, and is within its liberties and jurisdiction, part being in the hundred of St. Martin's Pountney, and the residue in that of Newchurch. It consists of an entire flat of marsh ground, without any hedges or trees; and there is no village, except a few straggling houses. Near the southern boundary is an estate called *Broadnax*, having once been held by a family of that name; which, some years back, belonged to Mr. Odiarne Coats, of *New Romney*, whose son, Mr. William Coates, was afterwards possessed of the same.

The Manors of Honichild and Blackmanstone claim over the major part of this parish; *subordinate* to the former of which the Criol family anciently possessed an estate of consc-

quence, called *Shooter's land,* which, under Edward III. devolved to Sir Thomas Keriel, as the name was then spelt, who fell at the battle of St. Alban's. It then went by marriage to the Fogge's, who, in the reign of Henry VIII. alienated this property to Gervas Carkeridge, who held the same *in capite* under Elizabeth. His son, Thomas, in 1640, devised a part to Amy, his wife, and the residue to Walter Franklyn and Mary, his wife, whose son, Thomas, in 1692, held this estate entire, which he sold, the same year, to Thomas Young, of Ashford. His son, Peter, leaving an only daughter, Sarah, she, in 1777, carried this property in marriage to the Rev. Edward Norwood, of Ashford.

There is another considerable estate in this parish, the mansion of which stands contiguous to the church; it extends into Blackmanstone district, and devolved to the Hale's family, where it continued till passed away by Sir Edward, of St. Stephen's, to Sir Peter Dennis, bart. admiral of the Red. The latter leaving no issue, this estate, in pursuance of his will, was alienated to Mr. James Hoffenden, of Tenterden; in whose heirs it continued.

No *parochial charities* exist here; the poor constantly relieved being about four, and casually three.

This parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, contains three aisles and a chancel, with a turret steeple at the west end, the whole being kept neat and clean. In the centre aisle is a brass memento of Matilda Jamys, ob. 1499, and another to William Gregory, 1502. There are also memorials of the Rolfe's and Blechenden's, of New Romney; and, in the south aisle, a monument to Peter Blechenden, ob. 1756.

This church was part of the possessions of the see of Canterbury, and so continues. It is a rectory, valued at £23 3 9, the yearly tenths at £2 6 4½; in 1588, the estimation was £80, communicants fifty-one; and in 1640 the same. There is a *modus* of 1s. an acre on all grass in this district.

In 1821, there were fourteen dwellings in the parish of Saint Mary's; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 73, females 30, making a total of 103 souls.

MIDLEY, in Domesday *Midelea*, joins Ivychurch at the south-west extremity of this hundred, about two miles from Lyd, west of the Rhee wall, in Walland marsh, and jurisdiction of the justices of the county. This parish resembles St. Mary's, last described, and only contains a few dwellings; the ruins of the church standing in the marshes on a small eminence, the lands being very fertile. It lies a mile and a half from Lyd church, and the same distance from Old Romney, which parish it joins; the boundaries, however, between them, not having been perambulated for a series of years, are now seemingly lost.

THE MANOR *of Agne Court*, in Old Romney, extends to this parish, claiming over the major part of the same; *subordinate* thereto is an estate once reputed a manor, though now claiming no such distinction, which was then called THE MANOR OF MIDLEY. When Domesday record was taken, it constituted part of the possessions of the bishop of Bayeux, being therein entered as such. On the disgrace of the latter, it was granted to the family of Peyforer; and, on the extinction of that name, about the time of Edward III. it passed to the Echingham's, of Sussex. It was subsequently conveyed in marriage to Sir William Blount, whose eldest son, Walter, first lord Mountjoy, was slain at the battle of Barnet, leaving one son and two daughters. Edward, his heir, first succeeded, who dying, his sisters inherited; when Elizabeth, the elder, marrying Thomas Andrews Windsor, afterwards lord Windsor, he became entitled to this property. By William, son of the latter, the manor was passed by sale to one Clache, whose daughter passed it in marriage to the Stringer's; a female of which line, in 1601, conveyed the estate in marriage to Sir Edward Scott, K.B. of Scott's hall. By the latter it was alienated to the Godfrey's, of Lyd, from which family it went by sale to the Tindal's, and lastly, to Aven Kingsnoth, and others.

CALCOT, or LITTLE CALDECOT, is an estate in this parish and Lyd, having been once in the possession of the Lumley's, of Essex; one of whom, named Thomas, devised it to his nephew, Sir James, who alienated the property to the Lade's. Michael Lade settled it on his daughter, Elizabeth, who carrying it in marriage to Mr. Benjamin Browne, they sold it to Mr. James Terry, of Brookland; from whom it passed to Mr. John Langley. This

estate is held of the manor of Swanscombe by castle-guard to the castle of Rochester.

There are no *parochial charities* in this district.

Midley is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, in a complete state of ruin, appears to have been very small, the arch over the west door being completely Gothic. This living is a rectory, and valued in the king's books at £30, the yearly tenths at £3. In 1588, the estimation was £100, the communicants nine. The actual value is £150 per annum.

In 1821, there were five dwellings in the parish of Midley; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 21, females 12, making a total of 33 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF LANGPORT,

WRITTEN in Domesday both *Lamport* and *Lantport*, is the next hundred southward from that of St. Martin's Pountney, and, as early as the reign of Edward I. the king and archbishop were lords of this hundred.

HOPE ALL SAINTS is the next parish westward from St. Mary's, part being within this hundred of Langport, and the residue in that of St. Martin's Pountney, the whole standing within the level of Romney marsh, and liberty and jurisdiction of its justices. It is an entire flat of marshes, very fertile, but without a tree or hedge; containing only a few houses, with the church, standing on a small declivity. It has no road leading to it, or any route in its vicinity.

The Manor of Snavewick claims over part of this parish, but the largest portion is within the *Manor of Hornichild*, situated at the south-east boundary. Soon after the Conquest, it was in the possession of the family of De Montfort, where it remained till the voluntary exile of Robert, under Henry I. when it passed to the crown, and was then granted to Robert de Ver, constable of England. His descendant, Henry, under Henry III. passed it to Hubert de Burgh, earl of Kent, who settled it on the hospital of St. Mary, at Dover, to hold in perpetual alms, where it continued till the reign of Henry VIII. At the suppression, it went to the crown, and was, by Queen Elizabeth, granted to Cuthbert Vaughan and his wife, in special tail, with remainder to her heirs. On the demise of the latter, it went to her two children by her first husband, William Twysden, namely, Roger and Margaret, whose descendant, Sir William, alienated this manor to Sir William Sedley, bart. of Aylesford. In the latter name it continued down to Sir Charles, of Nuthall, who again sold it to Mr. Jeremiah Curties and John Waterman, of Rye; who immediately after conveyed it to Sir Edward Dering, to

whose son, Sir Edward, bart. of Surrenden, it descended. A court-baron is held for this manor.

The tithes of this manor, and of *Eastbridge*, with the exception of Salt, were given by Robert de Ver and Adeliza, daughter of Hugh de Montfort, under Henry II. to the priory of Horton.

The Manor of Crauthorn, in this parish, most probably derived that name from its early possessors. Robert, so called, appears to have given lands to the same, and Thomas, who lived under Edward I. beautified the priory of the Carmelites, in Sandwich, where he died; his tomb, with his effigies, having been completely defaced in the reign of Henry VIII. Upon the extinction of the latter name, the family of Cheyney became possessed of this manor, when John, who was sheriff under Henry VI. died possessed of it in the time of Edward IV. It continued in his descendants down to Sir Thomas Cheyney, of Shurland, who alienated this property, in the time of Edward VI. to Sir Walter Hendley; and he, leaving three daughters, his eldest, Elizabeth, on the division of their inheritance, became possessed of this manor. She, marrying twice, and surviving both husbands, retained it in her own right, when, levying a fine, she passed it by sale, about the middle of Elizabeth's reign, to Thomas lord Burgh, of Sterborough, and he passed this manor to John Tooke, esq. of Bere, in Westcliffe. His descendant, Charles, sold his interest in the same to Edward Choute, of Bethersden; whose grandson, Sir George, in 1721, gave this estate by will to Edward Austen, esq. of Tenterden. The latter dying in 1760, devised the property, with his other estates, to his wife's cousin, Mr. John Amherst, in tail general, with several remainders; and he, succeeding to this manor in 1776, passed away his interest to Mr. William Dunning. He dying in 1797, it reverted back to John Amherst, esq. and the two sons of Mr. James Allen, the respective devisees in remainder, who, in the same year, became possessors of this estate.

There was formerly a manor in this parish, called *Dudmanswike*, or Newburne Lees, which was in the possession of the Cheney's. It afterwards devolved to the crown, and was granted to Anthony St. Leger; from whom it passed to the name of Warner, and thence to that of Honywood.

There are *no parochial charities* here; the poor yearly relieved are not more than three.

Hope is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to All Saints, long since in ruins, appears to have been of great antiquity. It is a rectory, under the patronage of the crown, and valued in the king's books at £10 1 0½, the yearly tenths at £1 0 1½. In 1588, it was estimated at £60, the communicants being nineteen; and in 1640, at £80, communicants being the same. There is a *modus* of 1s. per acre on all grass lands in this parish.

In 1821, there were five dwellings in the parish of Hope All Saints; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 25, females 23, making a total of 48 souls.

Lyd is the next parish south-westward from Hope, and lies at the south-western extremity of the county. It is written in ancient records *Hlyda*, a name probably derived from the Latin word *Littus*, a shore, alluding to its situation close to the sea. It is within the liberty of the Cinque Ports, and appendages of Orlaweston, or Orwalston, as it is generally called, and Dengemarsh, both in the bounds of this parish, ranking a member of the town and port of New Romney,

The town and parish of Lyd extend to Walland marsh, northward, and nearly to New Romney, north-eastward; having the sea to the south-east, and, westward, Kent wall, which separates this county from Sussex, being four miles and a half across either way.

The town, three miles from the sea, was formerly much nearer, as a spot exists in Dengemarsh still known by the name of the old haven. The liberty of the Cinque Ports claims over this parish, which ranks a *corporation by prescription*, being governed by a bailiff, jurats, and commons, whereto is added a chamberlain. The town of Lyd is flat and low, consisting of two streets, having the church between them, and may be ranked as the second in municipal importance, within the jurisdiction of the marsh; in fact, it contains almost twice as many inhabitants as Romney, its parent port. It occupies a very extensive site, consisting of small farm-houses, with a few shops placed near together, without much regularity. It has been supposed

that the illicit commerce of smuggling was formerly carried on here, as the principal employment of the inhabitants; but, considering the number of revenue officers stationed in the neighbourhood, and the vigorous activity and loyal disposition of the people of all ranks, it is probable there was more of calumny than truth in such a reflection upon their principles and conduct. We must, however, confess, that it is difficult to imagine in what manner such numbers of stout, hale-looking men as are seen constantly sauntering about, and hovering upon the coast, can provide food for their numerous families, without any visible occupation. As to fishing, very little is carried on here, the trade being still less; and the immediate vicinity of Lyd is, of all parts of Romney marsh, the least capable of affording agricultural employment to such an increasing population.

Lyd, as well as Romney, is paved with red and very hard bricks; in the chief street stands a neat market-house, supported by pillars of the above materials. The custom-house here is subject to that of Dover, although the town is a limb or member of Romney.

A market is held at Lyd on Thursdays, and an annual fair for graziers, butchers, and purchasers of cattle.

The Manor of Aldington claims over the major part of this parish; those of Bilsington and Wye having equal right, especially the latter, over the district of Dengemarsh. Among the other subordinate manors, the most conspicuous is Old Langport, giving name to the whole hundred wherein it lies. It was, in 774, granted by King Offa to Archbishop Janibert, of Christ church, and in the survey of Domesday was held of the archbishop by knight's service. It constituted part of the possessions of the bishop of Bayeux, from whom it was recovered by Archbishop Lanfranc in 1076, on the extinction of the family of De Rumenel. It then passed to that of Iken, from which name it went to the Hund's, who held it under Henry VI. after which we find it vested in the Belknap's, when, by female descendants, being partitioned off, it ultimately became the sole property of Sir William Mann, of Canterbury. How it subsequently devolved, does not appear, until by purchase it went to Mr. Robert Mascall, of New Romney, who devised it to John of that name, of Ashford; and he, dying in 1759, left it to his son Robert. A court-baron is held for this manor.

The Manor of Belgar, or *Belgrave*, lies at a small distance from Old Langport, and eastward from Lyd. It was, under Henry III. the property of John Mansell, clerk; and, on the suppression of the priory, in the reign of Henry VIII. that monarch exchanged it for other lands, with Sir Anthony St. Leger. His son, under Elizabeth, alienated this manor to William Middleton, who passed it to Sir Thomas Shirlye, from whom it went by sale to Roger Abdy. The latter by will devised this property to his kinsman, Sir Anthony Bramston, in whose descendants it continued down to Thomas Bramston, of Skreens, in Essex, who sold this manor, in 1785, to William Deedes, esq. of Hythe.

Jaques Court, generally called *Jack's Court*, is a manor situated eastward from the town of Lyd, and once belonged to a family of the name of Echingham, of Sussex. Sir Thomas, a descendant, dying without male issue, his daughter Margaret carried it in marriage to Sir William Blount, eldest son of Lord Mountjoy, when it afterwards descended to Sir Edward Scott, of Scott's hall. He sold this property to Edward Wilcocke, of Lyd, who died in 1577, and was succeeded by his two daughters, one of whom marrying Thomas Bate, of Lyd, conveyed the estate to the Barnfield's, from which name it was alienated in 1697 to the Martin's, and thence again to Joseph Tucker. After having passed to Samuel Jeake, and George Carter, the latter by will in 1782, devised it to his second daughter, who married the Rev. William Skeffington, and he died possessed of this manor in 1788.

The Manor of New Langport, or *Septvans*, the mansion of which is usually called *Seavan's Court*, is situated westward of the town of Lyd. Roger de Septvans resided at Canterbury in the reign of Edward III. in whose descendants it continued till the reign of Henry VI. when the manor passed to John Writtle. It then devolved to the crown, under Henry VIII. when it devolved to Thomas Emmerson, esq. who alienated the same to Thomas, earl of Haddington. The latter, in discharge of some debts, vested this manor in Martin Lumley, when it subsequently became the property of William Gomeldon, esq. of Somerfield, in Sellindge; and, lastly, was the property of Mr. Peter Heyman.

The Manor of Scotney, or *Bletchingcourt*, lies a small distance

northward of *Seavan's Court*, in this parish, and Promhill, having received the former of those names from a family, its original proprietor, in very early times. It afterwards passed to the Ashburnham's, of Sussex, one of whose descendants, under Henry V. alienated this estate to Archbishop Chicheley, who settled Scotney on his new founded college of All Saints, in Oxford.

Dengemarsh is a district in this parish, and lies south of the town of Lyd. The royalty of this district, now known by the name of *the Manor of Dengemarsh*, was, at the time of the conquest, in the hands of the crown, when it was given by the Conqueror to the abbey of Battle, in Sussex. It so remained till the reign of Henry VIII. when, passing to the crown, it there continued till Elizabeth granted this district to the family of the Tufton's, of Hothfield, in the descendants of whom, earls of Thanet, it remained down to the Right Hon. Sackville, earl of Thanet. A court-leet and court-baron are held here.

The family of Dering was anciently seated in this parish, in the district of Dengemarsh, having possessed a mansion called *Dengemarsh Place*, and another seat named *Dering's Marsh*, or *Dering's Droff*. Peter resided in this parish in the reign of Henry I. as did his grandson, Sir John, in that of Edward III. These estates have been long alienated from the Dering family, which also possessed another residence called *Nod*, then reputed to be within the bounds of this parish. The ancient mansion has been long pulled down, and no traces whatsoever now remain. There are two tombs in the church of Lyd, in memory of Richard Dering and his son, one of which is embellished by sculptured effigies. The Septvan's and Dering's are the only names of note in this parish.

The spacious old mansion of *Westbrooke* still remains, standing about half a mile northward from Lyd, and was in the possession of the late Sir T. Head, bart. *Dering's Marsh Place* is southward from Lyd, having been the property of the widow of Saville Finch, esq.; and *Dering's Droff*, or *Drove*, as it is now called, situated on the south side of the east Ripe, was in the possession of the guardians of the infant son of the late Mr. Thomas Shoosmith, of Lyd.

This parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury, and *deanery* of Lymne. The church,

which is exempt from the jurisdiction of the archdeacon, is dedicated to All Saints. It is very spacious, containing three aisles, and the same number of chancels, and the body of the edifice, being long and low, the tower, which is really lofty, appears still higher. At the south-west corner is a turret of the ornamented Gothic, of which such a beautiful specimen exists in the tower of Magdalen College, Oxford. The church is decorated with pinnacles, and has handsome buttresses, but the whole of the edifice is going very fast to decay. The south aisle of the chancel has been entirely demolished, excepting a small fragment of the wall, scarcely observable above the ground; and the door of the church, on the same side, appears to have been lately closed up, with a view to the safety of that part of the building.

There are many tombs to the memory of the families of Stuppenye, Beresford, Bate, Harte, Browne, and others, as well as others commemorative of the family of the Godfrey's. A monument also remains against the north wall, having the bust of a man bare headed, with a ruff, commemorative of Thomas Godfrey, obit. 1623, and a figure and inscription on brass, for John Montelfont, vicar, obit. 1440. The north chancel contains an ancient tomb, bearing the effigies of a man in armour, a wooden tablet stating the same to be Sir Walter Menel, of Jacques Court, who lived under Edward III. as appears from ancient records, but we have found no mention of this personage in any other place. Another tomb of white marble, in the centre aisle, displays the effigies of a young woman, being Anne, wife of Henry Russell, with her only child, who died an infant. At the south-east corner of the church is an ancient stone building, with no roof, being completely open to the churchyard. Vincent Daniel, of Scotney, was interred in this church, before the altar of St. James, having bequeathed legacies for tapers to be burned before a host of saints; he also devised a cloth of purple satin to lie on the image of our Lord, which reposed in the lap of our lady of Pitie, as well as a curtain of sarsenet to hang before her image. SimonWatte, of Lyd, by will, anno 1515, gave to the making of a new *payer of Orgaynes within this church*, 3s. 4d.

The church of Lyd belonged to the Cistertian abbey of Tintern, in Monmouthshire, founded by Walter de Clare; where it remained till the dissolution, and so continued vested in the

crown till 1558, when it was granted, by Henry VIII. to Archbishop Cranmer; and Queen Elizabeth, in her 3d year, gave the advowson in exchange, with other premises, to Archbishop Parker. This vicarage was endowed, anno 1321, and valued in the king's books at £55 12 1, the yearly tenths being £5 11 2½. In 1588 the valuation was £200, the communicants being 720, and in 1640 they were the same. It is now of the clear value of about £260 per annum, twenty-two acres of glebe land being appendant to this vicarage.

There was formerly a chapel dedicated to St. Mary, at the Nesse, in this parish, and in testamentary papers, in the reign of Henry VIII. frequent mention is made of a hermit and hermitage having existed.

In 1821 there were 290 dwellings in the parish of Lyd, and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 706, females 731, making a total of 1437 souls.

THE LIBERTY

OF THE

TOWN OF OLD, AND PORT OF NEW, ROMNEY.

Old Romney lies the next parish north-eastward from Lyd, being written in ancient records both *Romenel* and *Rumene*, a name Somner conjectures to have arisen from the Saxon *Rumenea*, signifying a large water, or watery place, being well suited to its actual situation. This place was at first called only Romney, and afterwards Old Romney, to distinguish it from the new town, which rose out of its ruins, when the port failed, and was transferred hither. The village or street, with the church, is within the liberty of the Cinque Ports, and jurisdiction of the justices of New Romney, part being in the hundred of Langport.

This place was originally of much note, having had a commodious harbour and port at one of the entrances of the river Limen, or Rother, and was conjectured to have been one of the Cinque Ports. The river Limen, however, failing in its current, and the sea losing its accustomed force, the port or haven became useless, when the town, being deserted, fell to decay. New Romney and its port then rose from the ruins, and became the principal Cinque Port, to which this old town was a subordinate member, and so continues at the present day. The dreadful tempests in the reigns of Edward I. and III. it is supposed, destroyed the whole face of this country, but, as there are no traces whatsoever now left of its former flourishing condition, we must rely on report only for the truth of its having ever been other than as it now appears.

The village, consisting of a few straggling houses, with the church in the centre, is sheltered by trees, imparting a more pleasant appearance than any other spot throughout the adjoining country. It contains upwards of 1800 acres of land, exclusive of those belonging to Aghne Court. The course of the river Limen is plainly to be traced, close to the west side of the village,

the channel of which now presents nothing but dry pasture ground. Somner conjectures that the *Portus Lemanus* of the Romans, was either here or at New Romney, in which opinion he stands alone, as the general idea entertained is, that it ran near Stutfal castle, at the base of Lymne hill.

The principal manor in this parish is that of AGHNE COURT, or *Old Romney Court*, which was given, by King Offa, in 791, to the priory of Christ church, where it continued till the dissolution, when Henry VIII. granted it to his newly-founded dean and chapter of Canterbury, with whom the inheritance remains.

BERRY COURT, called in old deeds *Bere Court*, is a manor in this parish, Nicholas de Bere having held the same under Henry III., when that name became extinct. It was subsequently vested in the family of the Belknap's, a descendant of which being attainted, under Richard II. it passed by letters patent to John Brokeman, esq. and thence, under Henry VIII. to John Newland. By the two daughters of the latter it was alienated to Sir George Perkins, when having passed by sale to various persons, it eventually in 1775, came to Mr. George Children, of New Romney. There are no *parochial charities* in this district.

This parish is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, which is exempt from the jurisdiction of the archdeacon, is dedicated to St. Clement, consisting of three aisles, and as many chancels, and appears, from the thickness of the walls and the shape and size of the pillars, to be very ancient. In the middle chancel is a memorial for John Defray, and in the north, an ancient tomb, without inscriptions, with a vault beneath. On the pavement there is a stone coffin, of an ancient shape, having thereon a cross, with leaves on either side of the stem. The font is extremely old, and supported on four stone pillars.

The advowson of the church was formerly part of the possessions of the family of Fitzbernard, whence it passed by descent to Guncelin de Badlesmere, in whose race it continued till the reign of Henry VIII. when it was granted by that monarch to Archbishop Cranmer, since which it has continued vested in that see.

This rectory was valued in the king's books at £15 19 2, and the yearly tenths at £1 11 11½. In 1588 the amount was £150,

the communicants being sixty-four. In 1662 the value was £172 6 2, the communicants being the same; its actual valuation is £160 per annum. The glebe land appendant to this living is twenty-seven acres and a half.

In 1821, there were twenty-one dwellings in the parish of Old Romney; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 81, females 72, making a total of 153 souls.

New Romney, still a borough, and formerly a port, arose into notice out of the ruin and decay of Old Romney, which now, independent of the church, contains only a few straggling houses. New Romney, however, notwithstanding its name, is so far from being a modern town, that it stands recorded as having been in a very flourishing condition at the period of the conquest. Leland describes "Rumeney" as one of the Cinque Ports, which, he says, had a pretty good haven, so that ships could approach very near to the town; and that, in his time, there were persons living who asserted that they could remember when vessels had thrown out their anchors upon one of the churchyards. He further adds that the sea had retreated, in consequence of which it was two miles from the town, the same being so much decayed that, instead of containing three large parishes, and their churches, one only could then be "scant maintained."

This account of Leland has been quoted and misquoted repeatedly, a modern writer having fallen into the glaring error of reading *eleven* miles instead of two, as being the distance of Romney from the sea-shore.

This town has a neat pavement of red brick, similar to that in some of the streets of Brighton. It also contains many well-built houses, and a guild-hall wherein the court of the Cinque Ports is held. Old Romney, Promhill, Lyd, Orleston, and Dungeness, are considered limbs of Romney, which sends two members or barons to parliament, elected by the mayor, jurats, and commonalty; the mayor being the returning officer, and the number of voters about eighty.

New Romney is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church,

which is exempt from the jurisdiction of the archdeacon, is dedicated to St. Nicholas the bishop. It is a fine specimen of Saxon architecture; but many of the most delicate ornaments of the arches, carving and foliage, have been obliterated or defaced by a thick coating of whitewash: this has probably occasioned the mistake of some authors, who have represented the building as much more modern, which is not the case. Even the tower, that from its great height was less exposed to such vile attempts at improvement, has suffered numerous mutilations, many of the arches having been filled up, and entirely a new character given to the style of this building, by the introduction of some grotesque fancies at the summit, which no longer boasts a stone of the original fabric.

In the interior are numerous monuments commemorating the families of the Smyth's, Brett's, Baker's, Tookey's, and others of the *viri illustrissimi palustres*, and ancient inhabitants of this district.

The chancel, which has two side aisles, is enclosed, and highly ornamented with a fine roofing of wainscot, painted and gilt at the expense of the family of Furnese, formerly barons of this port in parliament, by whose munificence also the seats of the mayor and corporation were fitted up in a manner suitable to the "representatives of majesty."

Many of the more ancient tombs and slabs are of Bethersden marble, one of which, upon the pavement, is inscribed with the name of Lambart, and the date 1514. There is also a raised tomb for the family of the Smyth's, with the date 1610, adorned by four small figures in brass.

The font, which stands in the south-west corner of the church, is of black veined marble, and esteemed of very remote antiquity; it, however, differs in form from the greater number of those whose ancient date is unquestionable, such, for instance, as those at Canterbury, Stewkley in Buckinghamshire, and especially at Winchester. The vessel of which we are speaking bears the form of an elegant vase.

The tower contains eight bells, esteemed particularly harmonious. At the west end of the building the ground has been raised to within five feet of the capitals of the pillars, and spring of the arch, which, judging from its span, must have been originally very lofty.

In the level fields bordering the town on the south-west, is the appearance of a rampart of earth, thrown up, probably, for the purpose of defence against the incursions of an enemy, or was produced from the effects of inundation, being apparently of modern date. A footpath crosses the fields, which are partly in tillage, the soil being light and sandy, but productive, and in part covered by a beautiful, green, soft turf, conducting the traveller by a nearer route than the carriage-road to Lyd.

There formerly existed a priory here, appendant to the abbey of Pontiniac, which so continued till the dissolution of alien priories in the 2d of Henry V. when all such establishments and their estates went to the crown. Henry VI. however, on the foundation of All Souls' college, in Oxford, granted this priory and the church of St. Nicholas, of New Romney, to that institution. How it subsequently became alienated does not appear, but it passed for many years from the family of the Baker's to the Coates'. A very small portion of the ruins are now remaining.

Adam de Cherryng founded *an hospital* in this parish for lepers, under Henry II. which becoming decayed, Robert Frauncys, of Romenale, under Edward III. reestablished the same as *a chantry* for two priests. Under Edward VI. this institution was suppressed, and then granted to the college of St. Mary Magdalen, in Oxford. It subsequently became private property, and in 1801 belonged to the widow of Mr. Wm. Harman, of New Romney.

There was another foundation here called St. John's house, for the use of the poor in St. Laurence parish, as appears from the will of John Mores, of St. Nicholas, in this town, under date the 4th of Edward IV. the same having been then dissolved, and becoming his property.

When this town was in a flourishing state it contained four other parish-churches, besides that of St. Nicholas, namely, St. Laurence, St. Martin, St. John, and St. Michael. At the close of the reign of Henry VIII. they were all disused, when St. Nicholas was ranked the only parochial church of the town and parish of New Romney.

This church anciently appertained to the abbot of Pontiniac, in France, and under Richard II. was valued at £20 per annum. On the suppression of the above-mentioned abbey, in 1414, this

church, &c. devolved to the crown, being subsequently bestowed, by Henry VI. upon All Souls' college, in Oxford, where it still remains vested.

In the king's books, the several parishes above referred to, and united to St. Nicholas, were valued at £6 16 3, the yearly tenths 13s. 7½d. In 1588 the estimate was £90, the communicants 361; and in 1640 at 105, communicants the same. There are seven acres of glebe land appendant to this living.

In 1821 there were 157 dwellings in the parish of New Romney, and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 433, females 529, making a total of 962 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF SELBRITTENDEN.

This district is written in Domesday record *Selebrist hundred,* and in other documents *Selebrichtindene,* and under Edward III. it was spelt *Selbrightinden.*

It contains within its bounds the parish of Sandhurst, with the church, and part of the parishes of Benenden, Hawkhurst, and Newenden, the churches of which are in other hundreds. One constable has jurisdiction over this district.

Sandhurst is the next parish eastward from Hawkhurst over part of which the *Manor of Aldington* claims, and Acrise over another portion. This parish occupies the southern edge of the county, adjoining Sussex, from which it is separated by the Kennet stream, rising near Tysehurst, in that county, below which it empties itself into the Rother. It extends four miles from east to west, and about three from north to south.

The soil is stiff, and the tillage heavy, abounding with marl, wherein is much iron ore; the western part, however, which is more hilly, presents a light and gravelly soil. The church, in the centre of the parish, stands on the knoll of a hill, and near it is the parsonage house. The high road, through Newenden to Hastings and Sussex, traverses this parish; contiguous to which are *Field green, Cow-beach green,* and *Ringlecrouch green.*

In this district is an estate called *Silverden;* and to the south *Upper* and *Lower Boxhurst;* and westward, the seat called *Downgate.*

A fair is annually held here, on the 25th of May, for cattle and pedlary wares, which formerly took place on the 6th of December, being the festival of Nicholas, the patron Saint.

Sandhurst Manor was given by Offa, in 791, to Christ church, and soon after the Conqueror, was held, of the archbishop, by knight's service of the Criol's. Of the latter family, under

Edward II. it was held by Hugo de Combe, whose successor was John de Betherinden, whence it was called *the manor of Sandhurst, or Betherenden.* By a female branch it passed to the Fitzherbert's, otherwise Finch's, and so continued till the reign of Elizabeth, when Herbert, son of Vincent Finch, sold this estate, with *Sandhurst place,* usually styled OLD PLACE, to the Pelham's. It was then alienated to the Fowle's, and subsequently to the Turner's, when Robert, one of the descendants, in 1784, passed it to John Blackburn, esq. of London. A court-baron is held for this manor.

ALDRINDEN was once a manor of some note, having had owners of that name, in whom it continued, until Roger de Aldrinden, leaving an only daughter, Christian, she, under Edward III. sold this property to John Selbrittenden, who alienated it to Thomas atte Bourne. By the last-mentioned possessor it was held under Richard II., and in his line continued down to the time of Edward IV., when John Bourne settled it on Joane, his female heir, wife of Thomas Allard. By John, son of the latter, it was sold, under Henry VIII to Twysenden, or Twisden, gent. whose ancestors were residents at TWISDEN BOROUGH, in this parish. William Twisden, a descendant of the above, under James I. sold this estate to Thomas Dounton, esq.; in which name it continued until the time of Charles II. when it passed to the Dunk's, and thence to the Richards's, when, by Anne, a female of the latter line, it went in marriage to George Dunk, earl of Halifax; by whom it was sold to one Collier, whose daughter marrying Mr. Henry Jackson, of Hastings, in Sussex, he, in her right, became possessed of this property.

SANDHURST is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Charing. The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, is built of sandstone, and contains two aisles and two chancels, with a square tower. It was possessed by the primate of Canterbury, and still continues vested in that see. This is a rectory, valued in the king's books at £20, the yearly tenths £2. In 1578, there were 218 communicants; and in 1640, 280; the valuation being then £110. Appendant to this living, there are ten acres of glebe land

In 1821, there were 134 dwellings in the parish of Sandhurst;

and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 577, females 605, making a total of 1182 souls.

The Township and Parish of Newenden adjoins Sandhurst, called in Latin *Noviodunum*, and in Saxon *Nifeldune*, meaning the low or deep valley. The name was probably derived from being built on the site of a more ancient place, existing under the Romans, of which people many vestiges are still apparent in the neighbourhood.

A portion of this parish is in Selbrittenden hundred, and the residue, called the Township of Newenden, is exempt from any hundred, having a bailiff appointed, to prevent this district from merging into the jurisdiction of the hundred.

Not far distant from Newenden village, it is conjectured by many antiquaries that the *station* and *city* of the *Romans* stood, called *Notitia Provinciarum* Anderida, by the Britons *Caer Andred*, and subsequently by the Saxons the castle of *Andred*, or *Andred Caster*, situated in the extensive forest reaching hence for a space of eighty miles into Hampshire. It was by the Saxons denominated *Andredwald*, by the Britons *Coit Andred*, and at the present day bears the name of *The Weald*. This was one of the ports where the Romans placed their *castra riparensia* for defending the coast against the piratical Saxons. Here was posted a detachment, under the orders of the count of the Saxon shore, called *Præpositus numeri Abulcorum*, for to this spot the Limen was then navigable. On the abandonment of our island by the Romans, the Britons used this place as an asylum, when harassed by the Saxons. It was at this spot that the Saxon Ella besieged the Britons, who, on that occasion, took *Andred Ceaster* by storm, when, in revenge for the length of time the siege had lasted, he completely demolished this city. In that desolate state it continued for ages, till Offa granted it, by the name of *Andred*, to Christ church, Canterbury. Under Edward the Confessor, this district was accounted part of the archiepiscopal demesnes, and held, by one Leofric, as an appendage to Saltwood, while, in the survey of Domesday, it also stands entered as part of the lands of the archbishop.

In this state the whole continued till the 51st of Henry VIII.

whom Archbishop Cranmer exchanged this manor and other premises with the crown. On the decapitation of Charles I. the manor being seized, was sold to Hugh Peters, and so remained until the restoration, when it reverted back to the crown: whence it was granted to the earl of Aylesford: and, by a descendant of that nobleman, in 1760, passed by sale to Mr. Bishop, of Losenham. A court-leet and court-baron is held for this manor.

Losenham, or *Lossenham*, is a manor half a mile north-east from the church, in the township of Newenden, within this hundred. It anciently belonged to the Aucher's, descended from Eulcher, first earl of Kent, having also the title of duke, from being intrusted with the military power of this county. After remaining for a series of generations in the above eminent line, this manor, under Henry VII. by the marriage of a female heir, passed to the Colepeper's, of Bedgebury; whose grandson, in 1628, sold it to the Moore's, of Egham, in Surrey, by which family the estate was alienated, in 1702, to the Bishop's, of Losenham.

No court has been held for this manor during a series of years.

Round the existing mansion, erected in 1666, there is a moat: to the south, many foundations have been dug up, as well as a stone coffin, composed of four flat stones, perforated with several holes, to admit a passage for the moisture.

Sir Thomas Fitz-Aucher, in 1241, founded a priory here, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, for Carmelite Friars, of which fraternity William Stronfield, who became prior of this order, wrote a history of the monastery of Newenden, and died in 1390. At the dissolution, the site of this priory continued vested in the crown, until granted by Philip and Mary to one Gilberd; whence it passed to the Colepeper's, and then to the Moore's. It was afterwards sold, with the manor of Losenham, &c. to Mr. Nicholas Bishop, in which line it continued. In this parish, contiguous to the priory, a castle once stood, according to Kilburne, which, in 892, was destroyed by the Danes. The only record of the same now remaining is a spot still denominated the *Castle toll*.

Newenden is separated from Sussex by the Rother, which flows along the south bounds of this parish for two miles, being the whole extent of the district. Over the above stream is a

brick bridge of three arches, conducting from the western parts of this county into Sussex.

The village contains a few cottages, with the church, built under Edward I. which, from foundations and wells discovered, seems to have once been a structure of some magnitude. The centre of this parish occupies high arable ground, the residue being flat pasture and marsh lands, the whole presenting a melancholy appearanee, very far from healthy. A quarter of a mile eastward is a strong chalybeate spring, situated in the marshes, and not far from the Rother; oak leaves being put into this water, turn it of a blackish hue, and when powder of galls is immersed, the liquid immediately sparkles like champagne.

No *parochial charities* exist here; the poor constantly relieved are about five, and casually three.

Newenden is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Charing. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, stands in the township of Newenden, which, having become ruinous, in 1700, the steeple and chancel were taken away, and the body only repaired. This fabric is consequently very small, containing one aisle, and another, very narrow, on the north side. The chancel is small and dark, across which run the altar rails; the font, very ancient, is of stone, supported upon four pillars, the capitals being embellished by flowers, while Saxon ornaments decorate the summit. Over the church porch was a room, with iron-grated windows, called the gaol, being used as such to the jurisdiction of the township. It was taken down about forty years back, by order of the archdeacon.

This church is a rectory, valued at £7 13 4, the yearly tenths being 15s. 4d. In 1640, the estimate was £50, and the communicants sixty.

In 1821, there were seventeen dwellings in the parish of Newenden; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 78, females 73, making a total of 151 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF ROLVENDEN.

This district lies the next, northward, from that of Selbrittenden, in Domesday written *Rovindene*, and, under Edward III. *Riolvinden*. It contains within its bounds part of the parishes of Benenden and Rolvenden, with the churches of the same. One constable claims jurisdiction here.

Benenden is the next parish north from Hawkhurst, that portion in the borough of Benenden, is in Rolvenden hundred, so much as is in Hevenden or Ibornden stands in Barkley hundred; that part in the north borough is in Selbrittenden hundred; while the portion in Crothall borough is in Crambrooke hundred. The liberty of the court of the bailiwic of the Seven Hundreds claims over the whole of this district.

The parish is seven miles in extent from east to west, and four the other way; it occupies more elevated ground than most of those adjoining, and is, therefore, very pleasant. It is traversed by the turnpike road leading from Cranbrooke to Rolvenden and Tenterden; previous to the formation of which, the routes were so bad as to render travelling almost impracticable. The soil, is, in general, a stiff clay, with plenty of marsh, and, in some parts, sand. In the north are abundance of coppice woods; and, in the vicinity of Hemsted, standing on high ground, the country is remarkably pleasant, commanding a variegated and extensive prospect. The mansion stands in a paddock, planted with avenues of trees; it had formerly a moat, now filled up; two wings were also pulled down, that to the right having, under Elizabeth, served as the gate-house to the more ancient fabric. The whole was formed of brick, and consisted of two handsome octagon towers; the left wing, from the remaining form of a large circular window, apparently served as the chapel; but the centre, still standing, is comparatively a modern structure. At a spot in the park, called *the Merry Tree*, the ground is reputed the highest throughout the Weald. Westward of Hemsted rises a

small rivulet, running hence towards Rolvenden ; and not far distant eastward, is the hamlet of Walkhurst. The village of Benenden also stands elevated in the centre of the parish, being built on either side of the high road, previously adverted to.

A short distance southward is the church and vicarage adjoining; the latter is a large green, called the *Playstool*, and in the southern district, near *Iden green*, lies *Frame Farm*.

Great and Little, otherwise East, Walkhurst, are two estates, which belonged to the priory of Christ church, and after the dissolution, were settled, by Henry VIII. on the dean and chapter of Canterbury. To the north-east, adjoining the woods, is *Pump house*, formerly inhabited by the Gybbon's, one of whom proved a benefactor to the freeschool established in this parish. A fair is held here, on the 15th of May, for cattle and horses.

The Manor of Benenden, subordinate to the liberty of the Seven Hundreds, is entered in Domesday as part of the property of Odo, bishop of Bayeux, on whose disgrace it was held by the earl of Albemarle, and then by a family that derived its name from possessing this property. Under Edward I. it was held, by John de Benendene, of the countess of Eu, and she again of the earl of Albemarle ; and under Edward III. by another John de Benenden. In that line it remained until passed by a female heir to the Brenchley's, and ultimately again by marriage to the Moore's, of this parish. William of that name, a descendant, in the reign of Henry VI. appears to have erected the mansion here, called Moore court, and in his line the property continued until alienated, in the 1st of Queen Mary, to Mr. William Watts. In his heirs it remained until sold to Sir John Norris, of Hemsted, when the manor, and Moore court, passed to Thomas Hallet Hodges, esq. of Hemsted.

Hemsted manor lies in Cranbrooke hundred, the bridge dividing the latter place and Rolvenden, which, under Henry III. belonged to Robert de Hemsted. In his descendants it did not long remain, as, under Edward III. we find it possessed by the Echyngham's, of Sussex. In the time of Richard II. the estate was held by Sir Robert Belknap, who having been attainted, this, with his other estates, devolved to the crown, and was then granted to William de Guldeford, who made additions to the mansion. In the last-mentioned eminent family this manor con-

tinued for some generations to Robert Guldeford, esq. who was created a baronet in the 1st of James II. when he removed hence to Camber farm, in Sussex, and having, under Queen Anne, procured an Act of sale, he, in 1718, vested this and other estates in trustees, by whom the whole was conveyed to Sir John Norris; whose grandson, John, possessing the same in 1780, sold it to Thomas Hallet Hodges, esq. who resided there in 1786.

Combden is another manor in this parish, anciently in the possession of the Fulke's, whose descendants resided here till the reign of Richard II. when it passed to the Whitfield's. Ralph of that name, in the reign of Charles I. left it to his daughter, who carried it in marriage to John Fotherby, esq. and they then passed the same to the family of Norris, and thence to Thomas Hallet Hodges.

This Parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Charing. The church, dedicated to St. George, was destroyed by a storm in 1672, and rebuilt in 1715. In the north wall is a monument to Sir John Norris; and, in the aisle, a memorial to Dame Mary, relict of Sir Edmund Fortescue, beside many others. The church of Benenden was part of the possessions of the priory of Combwell, in the neighbouring parish of Goodhurst, previous to the reign of Richard II.

The vicarage is a discharged living, of the value of £40, the yearly tenths £2 15 3. In 1640, the estimate was £90, and the communicants 500; it was afterwards valued at £50 per annum.

In 1821, there were 274 dwellings in the parish of Benenden; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 912, females 834, making a total of 1746 souls.

Rolvenden is the next parish eastward from Benenden, generally spelt and called *Rounden*. The court of the bailiwic of the Seven Hundreds claims paramount over this parish. It is pleasantly situated in a dry and healthy country, and had formerly many respectable mansions.

Near the church is a seat called Kingsgate, in the possession

of the family of the Weller's; another, of the name of Maplesden, was also settled in this parish in the reign of Henry VIII., from whom their possessions descended to John Beardsworth, esq.

Subordinate to the *court of the Seven Hundreds* is the manor of LAMBIN, or HALDEN, which received its former name from Lambin de Langham, who held it by knight's service in the reign of Henry III.; after which it went by sale to the Halden's, under Edward III. who added their name to the former. From this family it descended by marriage to the Guldeford's, of Hemsted, in Benenden, who carried it in like manner to John Dudley, afterwards duke of Northumberland, and under Henry VIII. it passed to the crown. By the latter prince it was demised for a term to Sir John Baker; in whose descendants it remained till sold to the trustees of Sir Horace Mann, bart.

THE SITE OF THE MANSION OF HALDEN, or LAMBIN'S COURT, together with the largest part of the demesne lands of this manor, which had been demised to Sir John Baker, were afterwards granted in fee to Sir Henry Sidney, who had married Mary, eldest daughter of the duke of Northumberland. He dying possessed of the same, his son, Sir Robert, afterwards earl of Leicester, sold this property, in the reign of Elizabeth, to Sir Thomas Smith; from whom it was alienated, and passed in succession of ownership to John Beardsworth, esq.

Halden place is now only a large farm, the arms of Guldeford still remaining carved in stone over the stables.

THE HOLE is another seat in this parish, having anciently had owners of that name. In the reign of Henry VIII. we find it in possession of Mr. Thomas Gybbon; in which family it descended to an only surviving daughter, married to, Philip Jodrel, esq. who surviving her husband, and dying in 1775, he bequeathed this estate in tail to Mrs. Jefferson, and she afterwards marrying John Beardsworth, esq. he in her right became entitled to this property.

KEINSHAM, or more properly *Cassingham*, was once a manor here, and held by a family of that name. William de Cassingham possessed it in the reign of Henry III. and was succeeded by his son, Ralph, who left two daughters, one married to Nicholas Aucher, and the other to Bertram de Wylmyngton. The latter appears to have died possessed of these lands under Henry IV.; soon after which, the More's, of Benenden, became the owners,

until the reign of Henry VIII. Under the latter monarch it was alienated to John Gybbon, and thence it passed to William de la Hay; when, in the reign of James I. we find it in the name of Everden, or Everinden, of Biddenden. It that family it remained for many years, until the reign of Mary, when it passed to the name of Munn, and subsequently, in 1757, to Mr. William Gibbs.

The *largest house* in the hamlet of Keinsham, formerly belonged to John Madwell, esq. of this parish, whose daughter carried it in marriage to the Rev. Thomas Chamberlaine, of Charlton, near Greenwich, whose son afterwards possessed the same.

There has been no court held for this manor during a succession of years.

Great Maytham is a manor in the southern part of this parish, anciently held by a family of that name. Orable de Maytham, with her sister, Elwisa, held much land in these parts, and appear to have been possessed of this property in the reign of Edward I. It then passed to John de Malmains, and thence to the Carew's, of Beddington, in Surrey; when, by the attainder of Nicholas Carew, in the reign of Richard II. it devolved to Thomas lord Cromwell. He having been also attainted in the reign of Henry VIII. it passed to the crown, and was granted to Sir Thomas Wyatt, to hold *in capite*. He alienated this manor to Walter Hendley, esq. and his heirs, who dying without male issue, it went to his three daughters, when Helen, the second, carried it in marriage to Thomas Colepeper, esq. of Bedgbury, whose lands being *disgavelled* in the reign of Edward VI. his grandson, Sir Anthony, included this manor in a settlement which he made in 1613. The estate was then sold to James Monypenny, esq. who began the foundation of a seat within this manor and borough of Maytham, which he called Maytham hall, when his son, Robert, in 1760, completed the structure, and died in 1772, leaving his brother, James, his heir.

Lowden Manor, called also *Little Maytham*, was, in the reign of Edward I. held by Elwisa de Maytham, as half a knight's fee. Under Edward III. in was in the possession of the Aucher's, whose succeeding heir, Henry, of Losenham, leaving it to his grandson, under Henry VII. his daughter, Anne, carried this manor in marriage to Walter Colepeper, esq. of Bedgbury. His grandson, John, alienated this estate in 1565 to John Wildgoose,

gent. whose descendant sold it, in 1637, to Mary Barker; when, in 1663, it was conveyed to George Radwell, esq. Felix, his heir, dying without male issue, it then passed by will to his grandson, Jeremiah Curteis, from whom it devolved to Mr. Samuel Curteis, of Tenterden.

There is no house remaining on this manor, a court-baron being held for the same.

FRENSHAM, as it is now usually called, though more properly *Fresingham*, or *Fersingham*, was anciently accounted a manor, and held by a family of that name. John de Fresingham, (which appellation was contracted to Frencham,) held it in the reign of Henry III., and under Edward III. it passed by sale to the Northwood's. In that line it continued till the time of Edward IV. when the estate was conveyed to Sir John Guldeford, of Halden; after which, we find it in the family of the Fowle's, of Sandhurst, who sold it to Sir Edward Hales. By the descendants of the latter it went by sale to Mr. Gilbert, who bequeathed it to Philip Gybbon, esq. of Hole; and from him it passed in the same way to John Beardsworth, esq. This manor is held of the manor of Swanscombe by castle-guard rent to the castle of Rochester, and is called in the rolls of that manor, Fraxingham.

FRENSHAM, or THE GATE HOUSE, is a seat here, situated on *Lain green*, and appears to have been once the ancient mansion and site of the above manor, though alienated for many years. It was once in the possession of the family of Pointz, Sir John of that name owning it in 1610. It then passed to the Kadwell's, originally spelt Caldwell, and afterwards Cadwell, who had lands here in the reign of Henry VIII. in which line it remained until Felix, in 1748, leaving two daughters, the eldest married Josias Pattenson, gent. of Biddenden; and Mary, Samuel Curteis, gent. of Tenterden. Kadwell Pattenson succeeded to this seat on the death of his grandfather in 1750, and died, leaving a widow, who married the Rev. Mr. Williams. This estate ultimately devolved to Mr. Josias Pattenson, of Brook place, in Ashford.

FORSHAM, or *Nether Forsham*, lies in the southern part of this parish, and was once accounted a manor, having formerly had owners of that name, as Osbert de Forshamme possessed it in the reign of Edward I. When that family became extinct,

the Northwood's succeeded, from whom it passed to the Guldeford's, who, in the reign of Elizabeth, sold it to the Dyke's, of Sussex; and from their descendants it was alienated, under Charles I., to Mr. Thomas Bromfield. From that line it went to the Moyse's, whence, by the marriage of Mary, a female heir, it passed to Moyle Breton, esq. and was then alienated to James Monypenny, of Maytham hall, in this parish, about the year 1735.

There was once on this manor an ancient stone structure, which appeared the ruins of a fort of some strength, while others conceive it to have been only a chapel for the use of the ancient possessors of the mansion.

Rolvenden is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Charing. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is large and handsome, and contains the remains of some good stained glass. Kilburne says, that in the first five windows in the great chancel were the effigies of — Carew, esq; in the second, those of John Guldeford; in the fourth, Henry Aucher and his wife; and in the fifth, that of More; all considerable personages who figured in this parish. It appears, by a brass plate against the southern wall of the south chapel of this church, that it was founded by Edward Guldeford, esq. on the day of St. Tiburtius and Valerianus, martyrs, A. D. 1444. In this church also lie buried several of the Gybbon's, the Hole's, and the Monypenny's. Clement Frencham was likewise interred here anno 1533, in Scott's chancel; and, in the churchyard are several tombs to the Kadwell's.

The rectory of this church was anciently part of the possessions of the eminent family of Cobham; since we find that it was given by John lord Cobham to the college founded by him at Cobham. At the dissolution, it was conferred by Henry VIII. on his newly erected dean and chapter of Rochester.

By the survey in 1649, this parsonage appears to have consisted of a farm-house, &c. and sixty-eight acres and two roods of land, at an improved rental of £120 per annum. Under Charles I. it was let by the dean and chapter to Edmund Hammond, esq. for twenty-one years, at £7 12 0.

The vicarage is a discharged living, and in the king's books is entered of the clear yearly value of £44, and the yearly tenths

£1 11 6. In 1578, there were 360 communicants; and in 1640, the value was £60, communicants 433.

In 1821, there were 157 dwellings in the parish of Rolvenden; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 702, females 701, making a total of 1403 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF TENTERDEN.

This hundred contains within its bounds THE TOWN AND PARISH OF TENTERDEN, and part of the parish of EBENEY, containing the borough of Reading, the church of which is in another district.

This hundred was anciently accounted one of the *Seven Hundreds,* and within the jurisdiction of the justices of the county, from which it was separated by Henry VI. who incorporated the town and hundred of Tenterden by the name of the *bailiff and commonalty of the town and hundred of Tenterden. The corporation* consists of a mayor, twelve jurats, as many common councilmen, a chamberlain and town clerk, the jurisdiction being exclusive from the justices of the county.

The parish is divided into *six boroughs,* each having a borsholder, chosen yearly, the same being as follow: Town Borough, Castweasle, Boresile, Shrubcote, and Dumborne, which includes all Smallhythe and Reading, wholly in the parish of Ebeney.

THE PARISH OF TENTERDEN lies too near the marshes to be either healthy or pleasant, except near the northern boundaries, situated upon higher ground. It is about five miles across either way; the soil varies, being in some parts sandy, in others of a stiff wet clay, while, towards the marshes, it presents a deep rich mould. The generality of the land is pasture, and the residue, comprising about 100 acres, consists of hop plantations. About a mile and a half eastward, is the hamlet of Reading Street, adjoining the high road to Appledore. On November 1, 1755, between eleven and twelve in the forenoon, several ponds in this parish and neighbourhood, without any sensible motion of the earth, became greatly agitated; but it was observed, that only those were affected, having springs to supply their waters.

THE TOWN OF TENDERDEN is situated nearly in the centre of the parish and hundred. It stands on elevated ground, rather pleasant and healthy, the greater part being built on each side of the high road, leading from the western parts of Kent

and Cranbrooke, through this parish south-east to Appledore. That part is paved where the market is kept, on a Friday, which is but little frequented. It is a well-built town, containing many genteel residences or seats, among which are those of the Curteis's, a numerous and opulent family, and the Hassenden's, having also been long residents here. The family of Stacy had likewise possessions in this district, from the beginning of the last century. The Blackmore's were owners of Westwell house, a handsome seat at the south-east end of the town, and Mr. James Blackmore, dying in 1789, his third wife, Anne, survived him.

At the east end of the town is *Craythorne house,* formerly belonging to the Bargrave's, and then to the Marshall's, who sold it to Mr. John Sawyer. A branch of the family of Whitfield were residents here, one of whose descendants sold the estate to William Austen, esq. of Henden, in this parish, to whose heirs it descended. A large fair is held in this place, on the first Monday in May, for cattle, wool, &c.

There are several objects in this parish worthy attention whereof we shall notice *Hales's place,* at the north-west end of the town, for many years the residence of the Hales's. By regular descent it came to Sir Edward Hales, of St. Stephen's, who pulled down the ancient seat and erected a new one, of which he remained possessed.

Hernden, formerly spelt *Heronden,* was once a considerable estate in this parish, and divided into several parcels, the whole having belonged to a family bearing the same name. One part of this estate was alienated by a descendant of that race to Sir John Baker, who died possessed of it in 1661; but the capital mansion, and other principal parts, remained some time longer in the family of Heronden, which, in the reign of Charles I. alienated that portion called *Little Hernden* to the family of the Short's, whose ancestors had resided at Tenterden for a succession of years. One of the latter line sold this property to the Curteis's, whose grandson, Mr. Samuel Curteis, afterwards possessed it. The remainder of Hernden, wherein the mansion stood, was conveyed by sale to Mr. John Austen, when William, the last heir, dying in 1742, devised it by will to Mr. Richard Righton; and his heir, in 1782, conveyed Hernden and Pixhill farm to Mr. Jeremiah Curteis, of Rye, in Sussex.

PITLESDEN, or *Pittelesden*, is situated near the west end of this town. It was once a seat of some note, being the residence of a family of that name, in whose possession it continued till the reign of Henry VI. when Stephen leaving an only daughter, Julian, she carried it in marriage to Edward Guldeford, of Halden. From the latter it passed to Sir Thomas Cromwell, who conveyed it by sale to Henry VIII. when it remained in the crown till Edward VI. granted it to Sir John Baker, to hold *in capite*, where it continued till he, in the reign of Charles I. sold it to Mr. Jasper Clayton, of London. Having passed through several other hands, it eventually became the property of Mr. Thomas Blackmore, gent. of Tenterden.

LIGHTS, formerly called *Lights Notinden*, is a small manor here, which, together with another called *East Asherinden*, was held by a family of that name, though now nearly forgotten. These manors belonged to a chantry, founded in this parish, and part of the possessions of the priory of Christ church, when Henry VIII. upon the suppression, granted them to Sir John Baker, whose descendant died possessed of the same in 1661. The former then became the property of Mr. William Mansell, and the latter devolved to Mr. William Children.

FINCHDEN is a seat situated on the *Denne of Leigh*, at *Leigh Green*, and was formerly in the possession of a family, who were ancestors of the Finch's. They were anciently called Finchden, from this seat, and in that line it continued down to Mr. Richard Finch, of Tenterden.

ELARDINDEN is an estate which was formerly of some note, being parcel of the manor of Frid, or Frith, in Bethersden. It was anciently part of the possessions of the noble family of De Mayney, and under Henry VI. it was alienated to William Darell, esq. who conveyed it, under Henry VIII., to Sir John Hales, of the Dongeon, in Canterbury, and in his descendants it continued down to Sir Edward Hales, of St. Stephen's, near that city.

THE MANORS OF GODDEN AND MORDIEU are situated in the south-west part of this parish. The former was once possessed by a family of that name, and thence it passed to the Aucher's. In the reign of Henry VI. Walter Shirington purchased both these manors to endow a chantry, near the north door of St. Paul's cathedral, which bore the name of Shiryng-

ton's chantry. They remained part of that foundation till the dissolution, when Henry VIII. granted them to Sir Miles Partridge to hold *in capite*. He then passed them to Thomas Argal, and from his descendants they went into the possession of Sir John Colepeper, afterwards created Lord Colepeper, who dying in 1660, they devolved to his second son, John. On the demise of his eldest brother, without male issue, he succeeded to the title of Lord Colepeper, and dying, in 1719, without children, bequeathed these manors to his wife Frances, daughter of Sir Thomas, of Hollingborne. The latter, by will, devised them to her nephew, John Spencer Colepeper, of the Charterhouse, being the last of the extensive possessions held by the various branches of this renowned family, dispersed over the whole of the county of Kent. John Spencer dying in 1781, alienated this property to Mr. Richard Curteis, of Tenterden, who is now present possessor of the same.

Kenchill is a seat in this parish, formerly the property of the Guldeford's, when Sir Edward leaving an only daughter, she carried it in marriage to Sir John Dudley, afterwards duke of Northumberland. That nobleman, in the reign of Henry VIII. conveyed this property to that monarch, who granted it to Thomas Argal, to hold *in capite*. At length, after some intermediate owners, it went into the possession of Robert Clarkson, esq. of London, who sold it in 1687 to Mr. John Mantell, of Tenterden, and in his heirs it continued down to Mr. William Mantell, who died in 1789, leaving several children.

The Hamlet of Small Hythe, generally called *Smallit*, is situated about three miles from the town of Tenterden, at the southern boundary of this parish, close to the old channel of the river Rother, over which there is a passage to the isle of Oxney. The inhabitants were formerly very numerous, but there is now only remaining three or four farm-houses, and a few cottages in the street near the chapel. The sea came up to this place as late as the year 1509.

A chapel was built here, and licensed by Archbishop Warham, A.D. 1509, on the petition of the inhabitants, in consequence of the distance of their parish-church of Tenterden, the badness of the roads, and the danger they encountered from the waters being out. It was dedicated to St. John the Baptist, and divine

service is still performed here, the building being kept in repair and maintained out of the rents of lands in this parish and Wittersham.

Tenterden is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Charing. The church, dedicated to St. Mildred, is a large handsome structure, and among its monuments those of most note belong to the families of the Austen's, the Curteis's, the Blackmore's, and the Hassenden's, the modern possessors of estates and manors in this parish.

Till within some years there hung a beacon over the top of the steeple, being a kind of iron kettle, holding about a gallon, with a ring or hoop of the same metal round the upper part. This vessel was intended to hold an additional quantity of coals and resin, the same being placed at the end of a piece of timber, about eight feet long. There was formerly a noted dropping stone in the arch of the doorway, which has now ceased to drop for many years; by the continued act of dripping, portions of two stones were completely worn away, leaving a hollow where they had once been united.

There is an old saying that *Tenterden steeple was the cause of the Goodwin Sands*, which is thus accounted for: Goodwin, earl of Kent, in the time of Edward the Confessor, owned much flat land in the eastern part of this parish, near the isle of Thanet, which was defended from the sea by a great wall. The land in question coming into the possession of the abbot of St. Augustine, still retained the name of Goodwin, but the abbot owning at the same time the rectory of Tenterden, in the building the steeple of that edifice, bestowed so much attention, that he altogether neglected the preservation of the wall; the result of which was, that, in November 1099, the sea broke over and submerged the lands within the same, overwhelming the whole with a light sand. On this account, the place retains to the present time the name of the Goodwin sands, so dreadful and dangerous to all navigators. Such is the traditional account of the origin of these shoals, but how far consistent with truth, will be further noticed in its proper place.

The church of Tenterden was part of the ancient possession, of the monastery of St. Augustine in 1259, and so continued until the suppression, when Henry VIII. settled this churchs

with the manor appendant, on his newly-founded dean and chapter. The parsonage was afterwards let to Sir Edward Hales.

In 1259 this vicarage was estimated at thirty marks, and in 1342 at forty-five marks. It is valued in the king's books at £33 12 11, and the yearly tenths at £3 7 3½. In 1588 there were 586 communicants, the valuation being then double.

In 1821, there were 527 dwellings in the parish of Tenterden; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 1600, females 1659, making a total of 3259 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF CRANBROOKE

Lies the next parish eastward from Goudhurst, a small part of which is in the north borough of the hundred of *Great Barnefield*, another smaller part in the borough of Ibornden, in the hundred of Barkley, and is situated eastward to that of Marden, in the lath of *Scray*. It occupies the centre of the Weald, and, considering its inland situation, is by no means inconsiderable. The air is salubrious, and the north and east parts covered with wood, mostly oak, being watered by several small streams, which join the branch of the Medway, below Hedcorne. The town of Cranbrooke lies in a valley, surrounded with pleasant woods, and remarkable for the longevity of its inhabitants, that stands unrivalled; an instance of which may be recorded in the persons of the late vicar, the Rev. Mr. Disney, with his clerk, and sexton, whose united ages amounted to 254 years. Dr. Derham, in his Physico-Theology, remarks that Cranbrooke, in Kent, and Aynho, in Northamptonshire, are the two healthiest towns in England. There are several chalybeate springs in this parish, particularly at Glassenbury, Sissinghurst, and Angley, where the waters, much resembling those at Tunbridge, are recommended by the faculty as possessing the same properties. Two fairs are held yearly, on the 30th of May, and 29th of September. Among the families who once flourished here, were the Bathurst's, the Ongley's, the Courthope's, the Mapleden's, the Gibbon's, the Weston's, the Plumer's, the Austen's, the Dunkes', and the Stringer's, which were generally called, from their dress, the *Gray Coats of Kent*, being so numerous and united, that at county elections, all those for whom they voted were certain of being returned. The inhabitants are computed at about 4000, the major portion of whom are dissenters; the Society of Friends have also a place of worship here, and a burial ground about half a mile from the town. Cranbrooke is noted as having been the spot where the cloth business was originally concentrated, and carried on for many centuries, the cloth here manufactured having been in high repute.

Hasted states it was of so much consequence, and held in such estimation, that persons possessed of most landed property in the Weald followed this business, and nearly all the ancient families, many of which are now ennobled, sprang from, and owe their titles to ancestors who followed this great staple occupation, at the present day almost unknown at this place. It is also reported that Queen Elizabeth, in the year 1573, upon a visit to Cranbrooke inspected the cloth manufactory, and walked to Coursehorne, a mile distant, the whole way upon broad-cloth. A grammar school was founded in this parish by that potentate, and another for writing, in 1753, by Mr. Alexander Dence, who endowed the same with £160 a year. In the western part of the town is a good mansion, called Shepherd's, once the property of — Tempest, esq. who died possessed of that residence in 1784, and left it to his son, John, the present owner. At a small distance is Goddard's Green, the ancient residence of the family of the Courthorpe's, in whose descendants it remained till carried in marriage, by a female heir, to Henry Campion, esq. of Combwell, whose grandson, William, of Daring, afterwards possessed it.

At Upper Wilsley, adjoining the north-east end of the town, is a seat, inhabited for many generations by the Weston's, many of whom lay buried in Cranbrooke church-yard. The manor of Glassenbury claims over the greater part of the town of Cranbrooke, being of considerable note, and situated nearly three miles from the church. It was for many years the residence of the family of Rokehurst, or Robert's, which had resided at Goudhurst for 274 years. In the reign of Richard II. Stephen Rokehurst, or Roberts, married Jane, daughter of William Tilley, esq. of Glassenbury, whose ancestors had resided here for many years, and built this mansion, which came by lineal descent to Walter Roberts, esq. and he, under Henry VII. was the first who wrote himself by that name only. He died in 1522, after having been attainted under Richard III. and restored to his estates by Henry VII. His descendant dying in 1745, his daughter, Jane, carried this manor and seat in marriage to the duke of St. Alban's, when he left the same to Sir Thomas Roberts, of Ireland, bart. It is now the residence of the Rev. John Cramer Roberts, who married the daughter of the above Sir Thomas. This seat, which is still moated, lies low and retired, about two

miles from Cranbrooke, and though much of its beauty is now defaced, it still possesses great interest.

In this parish are the hamlets of Milkhouse, Hartley, Goford, and Wilsley; Milkhouse Street is a hamlet of houses situated on the road to Biddenden, about a mile and a half from Cranbrooke. At the west end is a seat which for many generations belonged to the family of Plummer, in whose descendants it continued till 1769, when Thomas devised it by will to Charles Nairn, esq. whose widow still resides there. At the eastern corner of the road, leading from this Street to Tenterden, are the remains of a chapel, founded by John Lawless, under Henry VI. and dedicated to the Holy Trinity. This chapel was suppressed under Henry VIII. and the site and revenues, in the reign of Edward VI., were sold to Sir John Baker, of Sissinghurst; from whom they descended to Sir Horace Mann, bart.

Flishinghurst, or *Flushinghurst,* is a manor situated about a mile from Glassenbury, and once the inheritance of the Sharpleigh's, of Sharpleigh, in this parish. It was alienated, under Charles I. to one Martin, and then to the Walter's; from whom it passed to the Plummer's, of Milkhouse Street; and subsequently fell into the possession of Mr. Charles Nairn.

The borough of Frizley is a district situated about a mile eastward from Flishinghurst, and within the liberty of the royal manor of Wye, which formerly belonged to the abbey of Battle. This borough has a court-leet of itself. The principal estate belonged to the Wilsford's, of Hartridge, who sold it to the Hovenden's; from whom, in 1719, it was alienated to Richard Children, esq. who left it to his grandson, George, of Tunbridge.

Within the bounds of this borough is the *manor of Anglye,* otherwise *Anglynglye,* which was part of the possessions of the above-mentioned abbey, from its foundation by William the Conqueror. It so continued till the dissolution, when it came to the crown, and was sold by Henry VIII. to Walter Hendley, gent. to hold *in capite* by knight's service. It was afterwards alienated to one of the family of the Tempest's, whose descendant passed it to Mr. Smart, in 1785, when it became the property of Sir Walter James, bart. who improved the estates, and whose amiable manners, and benevolence to the poor, will be long held in grateful remembrance by the inhabitants of Cranbrooke. In 1811, this estate was purchased by William Coleman,

esq. who, in 1813, resold it to Valentine Conolly, esq. the present proprietor, who has greatly improved this estate.

Sissinghurst is distant about a quarter of a mile from Milkhouse Street, in a secluded and unpleasant situation, and, from having once been the proud residence of the *Baker's*, is now converted into a *parish poor-house!* The buildings were originally extensive, and stood entire within the last seventy years; but little now remains, except the great western entrance, flanked by octagonal towers, and a small part of the out-offices. This estate was held of the heirs of Sir Horace Mann, bart. for the use of the parish. During the seven years' war, Sissinghurst was hired by government for the confinement of French prisoners, 3000 of whom were detained here between the years 1756 and 1763, and thence it acquired the name of Sissinghurst castle. It was anciently called Saxenhurst, and in the possession of a family of that name by a female heir of Saxenhurst, and then carried into the line of Berham, when it was alienated to Thomas Baker. This family had been settled in Cranbrooke as early as the reign of Edward III. from which was descended the learned John Selden. Sir John Baker, of Sissinghurst, the last of this name, died in 1661, leaving four daughters his heirs: Anne, married to Edmund Beaghan, esq.; Elizabeth, to Robert Spencer, esq.; Mary, to John Domel, esq.; and Catherine, to Roger Kirkley, esq. whose respective husbands became in their rights jointly entitled to this estate. It was afterwards conveyed by them to Galfridus Mann, esq. whose son, Sir Horace, thus became proprietor of all their separate interests, and he dying, in 1814, without male issue, the estate became vested in, and is now the property of his nephew, James Cornwallis, lord bishop of Litchfield, who has assumed the surname of Mann.

Hartley is another small hamlet, about a mile and a half from the town, in the road to Battle and Hastings.

Hartridge is a *manor* next to Staplehurst, the mansion of which was once of great note, possessed by a family of that name, whose descendants, in the reign of Henry VIII. sold it to Thomas Wilsford, esq. One of his heirs married Elizabeth, daughter of Walter Colepeper, esq. of Bedgbury, by whom he had two sons and nine daughters; it afterwards passed to one Cook, on whose death his daughters, being his heirs, alienated this manor by sale to Mr. George Lewis, who, in 1778, passed

it away to Sir Horace Mann. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Hockeridge is an estate in this parish, which, with another called Holden, was the property of the family of Holden, a descendant of which alienated this estate to Sir Horace Mann, bart.

Bettenham is a manor situated at the north-east boundary of the parish, having a hamlet belonging thereto; where was once the residence of a family of that name. In 1588, this manor was alienated to Thomas Rowe, lord mayor of London, who sold it, in the reign of James I. to one Mansfield; whence it passed to the Hendley's, where it continued down to William Hendley, esq. of Otham, by whose heirs it was sold to Mr. W. Bonny, the present owner.

Goford is a hamlet pleasantly situated, leading from the town of Cranbrooke to Tenterden.

Coursehorne manor, situated about a mile from the church, was, for upwards of 400 years, the inheritance of the family of the Hendley's, afterwards spelt Henley, in which it continued down to Sir Walter Hendley, under Henry VIII. who died here in 1553, when, having descended to his grandson, William, it was sold, and is now the property of Mr. Benjamin Baker.

Swifts is a mansion situated half a mile eastward of the town, upon a gentle rise, forming a principal and interesting object in the prospect westward. It was once the property of the Courthope's, in whose line it continued for many years, when it passed to the family of the Cooke's; one of whose descendants, in 1782, sold the reversion of this estate to Jeremiah Curteis, esq. of Rye, who passed it, by sale, to Thomas Adams, esq.; from whom it was alienated to John Austen, esq. the present proprietor and resident.

Adjoining to *Swifts* is an estate called Buckherst, which once had owners of that name, but, in the reign of Edward III. was possessed by the family of the Handloe's. Upon the extinction of that name, it was vested in the Drayner's, under Henry VII.; and, after several successive owners, was sold to John Cooke, esq. of Swifts, who passed it to Mr. Pearce, of this parish. It was subsequently purchased by, and is now the property of the above-named John Austen, esq. of Swifts.

Hayselden, another *manor*, about a mile from the town,

on the road to Maidstone, was also once possessed by the Henley's, and then purchased by Stephen Swatland, esq. who has lately erected a noble mansion where he now resides.

CRANBROOKE is a large and flourishing parish, being eight miles long, and six broad, surrounded by those of *Biddenden, Benenden, Hawkhurst, Goudhurst, Marden, Staplehurst,* and *Frittenden.* It is interspersed on all sides with hills and dales, the land being fertile, and the pasturage rich, particularly so for hops, the plantations of which, in this parish, are reckoned to be the finest of any in England.

CRANBROOKE is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Charing. The hops growing in this parish are exempt from tythes.

This town is distant from London forty-eight miles, thirty-nine from Canterbury, from Brighton thirty-eight, from Hastings twenty-four, from Rye eighteen, from Tunbridge Wells sixteen, and from Maidstone fourteen.

The church, dedicated to St. Dunstan, is a handsome edifice, and one of the largest in the Weald of this county. The pillars on either side of the centre aisle are beautifully slender from the corbel heads, and above the impost of these pillars rise small cluster shafts. The high chancel is decorated with paintings, and the east window full of fine stained glass, many of the figures being entire and richly ornamented with draperies. Against the east wall is a pyramid of white marble, whereon is inscribed the pedigree of the family of Roberts. The altar-piece is richly finished with carved wainscot, and flowery embellishments. Over the centre is a representation of a *Glory,* containing in the middle the *Jewish Tetragramaton,* while the ceiling, over the communion table, exhibits a view of opening clouds, and a radiated sun, which encloses the word *Jehovah,* in Hebrew characters. In the chancel are many military banners and armorial furniture, which formerly belonged to the Roberts's, of Glassenbury. On Sunday, July 2, 1725, a great part of this church fell in, owing to one of the chief pillars giving way, the damage occasioned by that accident having been computed at £2376 13 6.

On the left hand of the vestry is a small alabaster monument, bearing a black tablet, with an account of the family of Rookeherste, otherwise Roberts; and in the south aisle is a

memento to the Baker's, of Sissinghurst. There are many other memorials to departed greatness, which are well worthy of notice.

The church of Cranbrooke was part of the possessions of the see of Canterbury, and valued in the king's books at £19 19 4½, the yearly tenths at £1 19 11½; and in 1578, there were 1905 communicants. In 1314, a commission was issued for settling a dispute between the rectors of Biddenden and Cranbrooke concerning the bounds of their respective parishes.

In 1821, there were 473 dwellings in the parish of Cranbrooke; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 1855, females 1828, making a total of 3683 souls.

Frittenden is the next parish north-eastward, that part which lies in the borough of Stephurst being in the hundred of Barkley, and the remainder in that of Cranbrooke, the Seven hundreds claiming paramount over the same. This parish is very narrow from east to west, and bears an unpleasant and dreary aspect, the roads in the driest seasons being nearly impassable. Sir Horace Mann possesses and is now owner of nearly one half of this parish. A family of the name of Webbe once resided here, but became extinct about the latter end of the last century. There is an annual fair, held on the 8th of September, for toys and pedlary.

The manor of Comden, or Comenden, is situated in the south-west part of this parish, having been formerly the property of the priory of Leeds, where it remained until the suppression, when Henry VIII. granted it to Walter Hendeley, esq. to hold *in capite*. Two years after he alienated this manor to Sir John Baker, of Sessinghurst, in Cranbrooke, in whose descendants it continued till sold to the trustees of Sir Horace Mann.

Bewper was once a *manor* here, and, with *Great* and *Little Ferhurst*, constituted part of the revenues of the abbey of Faversham. It continued in that institution till the suppression, but having been previously demised by the abbot, for ninety-nine years, to Henry Wylford, was granted by Henry VIII. subject to that demise, to Sir Thomas Moile. The latter,

not long after, passed away his interest therein to Robert Prat, whose son, Francis, conveyed it by fine to Mr. Edward Bathurst. He sold it to Sir Thomas Baker, of Sissinghurst, who became entitled to the actual possession of this estate, which continued in his descendants till alienated to the trustees of Sir Horace Mann.

Wallinghurst and Buckhurst are two small desolate manors in this parish, which, by some unknown means, devolved to the crown under Henry VIII. By that prince they were then granted to Thomas lord Cromwell, upon whose attainder these estates reverted to the crown. They were subsequently granted to Sir Thomas Baker, of Sissinghurst, in whose descendants they remained till sold to the trustees of Sir Horace Mann.

Upper Peasridge, or *Pound Farm*, is a manor, once possessed by the great family of Badlesmere, in which it remained till Bartholomew of that name forfeited the same for treason to the crown under Edward II. However, his son, Giles, being high in favor with Edward III. he regained possession of his inheritance, though under age. Upon his death, his four sisters became his heirs; the eldest of whom marrying John de Vere, earl of Oxford, on a partition of their estates, he became in her right entitled to the same, and died possessed of this property. It then passed by sale to the St. Leger's, and was again sold to Lone's; where it remained till alienated to the Weston's, of Cranbrooke, one of whose descendants left it to his widow, who resided at Upper Wilsley, and was the last possessor.

Frittenden is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Charing. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a rectory, and was for some time under the patronage of the Baker's, of Sissinghurst, the interest of the same becoming subsequently vested in Anthony Paull, gent. It is valued in the king's books at £15 18 9, the yearly tenths at £1 11 1½. In 1578, there were 158 communicants.

In 1821 there were 116 dwellings in the parish of Frittenden; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 412, females 387, making a total of 799 souls.

Staplehurst is the last parish in this hundred; the vil-

lage lies about nine miles south of Maidstone, on the road to Cranbrooke, from which latter place it is distant between four and five miles, being pleasantly situated on the summit of a hill. Owing to that circumstance, although surrounded by low wet lands, which are very general in the Weald of Kent, the air of Staplehurst has, by many, been considered exceedingly salubrious. To this place persons used frequently to resort for the benefit of their healths, even when approximating the last stages of consumption. Staplehurst, like many other villages, consists of a single street, if so it may be called, running directly from north to south, and formed by a few irregular old-fashioned houses, built on either side of the main road, with here and there one of more recent appearance and date. The soil, like that of the surrounding country, is a stiff clay, and abounding in stone quarries, the produce of which is very hard, and capable of receiving a beautiful polish, abounding also in numerous little marine shells. The stone is usually to be found about five feet from the surface, which is principally used for paving; some portions, however, of inferior quality, are broken up to mend the roads.

This parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury, and *deanery* of Sutton. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is, no doubt, an ancient structure, and consists of a tower and two aisles. Our attention was particularly attracted by a curious old oaken door, on the south side of this edifice, covered with pieces of iron, wrought into various ancient shapes and devices, affording no small evidence of its antiquity. There does not, however, appear to be any record of the date of its construction, nor could we gain any information in regard to that fact. The earliest patron of this rectory recorded, was John Kempe, bishop of London, who died in the 4th of Henry VII. It afterwards passed to his nephew, Thomas, of Ollantigh, knt. by whose son it was passed away to Sir Richard Baker, who held the same in 1578. The latter then sold it to Martin Colepeper, of Oxford, who, under James, alienated it to Robert Newman, s.t.p.; and in that line it continued to the time of Charles II. when it was the property of John Clayton, esq. Under Queen Anne, it was ultimately purchased by the master and fellows of St. John's College, Cambridge, and continues part of their possessions.

It is valued in the king's books at £26 5 11, yearly tenths £2 12 7. In 1578 there were 440 communicants; and in 1640, 508; the estimation then being £160 per annum.

Here still remains, on nearly the highest part of the hill, what is rarely to be seen at the present day, namely, a sign-post, erected in the form of a gallows, the two upright posts being placed on the opposite sides of the road. They are each about thirty feet high, and the same distance apart, while the horizontal bar on the top extends entirely across the road, from the centre of which hangs the sign of a Bell. The house itself is very large, with projecting front, and Dutch roofing; and, if we may judge from its size, is sufficient to afford accommodation for the whole of the villages at once. A quarter of a mile farther, on the Cranbrooke road, stand about a dozen houses, or rather cottages, for the most part inhabited by the poorer class of people, which spot, probably on account of its distance from the village, has acquired the name of the *Quarter*. On the left hand entrance from Maidstone, about 200 yards from the road-side, stands a mansion called Loddenden, presenting a spacious antique building, with several large but inconvenient out-offices; in front of which, in a little paddock, are a couple of stately elms. This mansion, together with several acres of land belonging thereto, has continued to descend to, and been possessed by different gentlemen of the name of Usborne for upwards of three centuries, but it is believed the male line is now extinct. There are two or three ancient houses in this parish, which formerly belonged to the Lambe's; and in the window of one of them is a coat of arms of that family, in stained glass, quite entire, bearing the date 1553.

The manor of Staplehurst was once part of the possessions of the family of Fremingham, or Farmingham, John of that name having died possessed of the same under Henry IV. He having devised it by will to certain feoffees, they assigned it over to John, son of Reginald de Pimpe, with remainder to Roger Isle, the next in blood. It continued in that line till Henry VIII. granted this manor to Sir Thomas Wyatt, from whom it passed in succession, in 1752, to Galfridus Mann, esq. whose son, Sir Horace, afterwards possessed this property.

Newsted, a manor in this parish, was annexed to the free chapel, erected here by Hamon de Crevequer, and invested with

numerous privileges; which gift, with all its franchises, was confirmed in the reign of Edward III. This chapel, however, being suppressed, was, by Edward VI. granted to Sir Edward Wotton, knt. in which line it remained to Thomas lord Wotton, who dying in 1630, it went to his eldest daughter, the wife of Henry lord Stanhope. It next passed to the Oliver's, and then by marriage was first vested in the Covert's, and again in the same way devolved to the Saxby's. It was next alienated to the Hales's, and then to the Mercer's, in which name it continued. No court has been held for this manor during many years.

Henhurst, formerly *Hengehurst*, which conferred its name to the ancient family so called, continued in possession of that line from the reign of Edward II. to that of Henry VI. It next passed to the Nash's, and so continued till alienated to the Kempe's, under Henry VII. It was subsequently disposed of to the Roberts's; then to the Moody's; and from that name passed by marriage to the Lusher's, who, prior to 1634, alienated it to the Hovenden's. By a daughter of that name it went in marriage to the Tyndall's, who passed it to the Love's; whose female heir carried it in marriage to Mr. John Waller, when it became the property, by reversion, of her kinsman, Mr. John Love.

Spixill Court was once the residence of a family of that name, which became extinct under Edward II. when it was the property of the Stangrave's. Under Edward III. it passed to the Mainey's; in which name it continued till descendant, in the reign of James I., sold it to Mr. John Sharpye, who left an only daughter. She married Mr. George Thompson, of London, when it was then sold to Nicholas Toke, of Maidstone, whose daughter carried it in marriage to Mr. William Usborne, gent. of this parish; and his son, Toke Usborne, esq. of Staplehurst, afterwards possessed it.

Aydhurst, called *Little Aydhurst*, is a manor here, lying north-west from the church, the mansion of which has been long in ruins. It was once the property of the Lambe's, of Sutton Valence, whence it passed in marriage to Thomas Peene. He sold it to Jeremy Parker, whose descendant, in 1752, passed it by sale to Mr. Rawlins, of Maidstone; when it ultimately came into the possession of Mr. George Prentice.

There is no court kept for this manor, which is held of that of Sutton Valence by the name of *part of the Denne of Aydhurst*.

Widhurst, otherwise *Lower Pagehurst*, usually called a manor, is situated near that last described. It was once owned by the Mayo's, till carried in marriage to Mr. Philcocks, when it was divided among his children. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Lovehurst is a manor southward from Lower Pagehurst, more considerable than those before mentioned, as it gives name to a small borough in this hundred. This land belonged to the priory of Combwell, in Goudhurst, where it remained till the suppression, and continued but a short time in the crown, being granted to Thomas Colepeper, gent. to hold *in capite*, when it again passed to the crown. By Henry VIII. it was then granted to Sir John Gage, to hold in like manner.

He sold it to Thomas Wilsford, esq. of Hartridge, when it became alienated to Mr. John Baker, whom passed it to the Stanley's; and after many intermediate owners, it devolved to the Johnson's; one of whom ultimately gave it by will to St. Bartholomew's hospital, in London. *The borough of Lovehurst* has a court-leet of itself, held at the manor of Lovehurst.

At a small distance from the south end of the village of Staplehurst is *Iden green*, on which stood, till within some years, the *Manor of Iden*. This district was formerly the property of the Chiffinch's, from which it passed to Brian Fausset, esq. of Heppington, whose heir sold it to Mr. Thomas Simmons.

Maplehurst and Exhurst are *two manors*, in ancient times, of some consequence, the former situated within the bounds of one of those thirteen denberries which Kenewulf, king of Mercia, and Cuthred, king of Kent, gave to Wernod, abbot of St. Augustine's, Canterbury. Edward I. granted them, by the name of Mapulterhurst, to Thomas de St. Leger; and in his descendants it remained till it was sold to the Roberts's, of Robesart, who died possessed of it under Henry VI. How long it continued in that name is not known, but, in 1720, the whole became the property of the Peke's, who sold them to David Papillon, esq. of Acrise, whose son afterwards possessed them.

In 1821, there were 236 dwellings in this parish; and at the same period, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 774, females 739, making a total of 1513 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF BLACKBORNE

RANKS the final one of the *Seven hundreds,* and is the last in the Lath of Scray, lying north-eastward from that of Tenterden, and was anciently called *Blacetune.*

This hundred contains within its bounds the greatest part of the parishes of HALDEN, SHADOXHURST, KENARDINGTON, APLEDORE, *and the whole of the parish of* WOODCHURCH, with the churches of those parishes, as well as part of BETHERSDEN, SMARDEN, and WAREHORN, which are in this hundred, but the churches of the latter stand in other districts. One constable has jurisdiction over the whole.

HALDEN, generally called *High Halden,* to distinguish it from the manor of Halden, in Rolvenden, was, in ancient records, written *Hathewolden,* and lies the next parish north-eastward of Tenderden; part being in the borough of Omenden, in the hundred of Barkley, and the residue in Blackborne. The court of the bailiwic of the Seven hundreds claims over part of this parish, and the manor of *Lambyn,* otherwise *Halden,* over other parts.

This parish is situated very retired, and as unpleasant as any within the county, being about three miles long, and two broad. The village is nearly in the centre of the parish, with the church and parsonage adjoining; the surrounding roads being scarcely passable in the driest weather; coppice wood and oak abound in the vicinity.

At the west end of the village is a house denominated *Halden place,* and another, called Brickhill house, was for many years the seat of the Paul's, the last of whom died in 1758. His eldest daughter then carried it in marriage to Mr. Henry Bagnall, rector of Frittenden, who left his two daughters coheirs. There is a large moat north-westward from the church, which appears very ancient, although no bricks or any kind of building appears to have appertained to the same.

Several smaller manors are within this parish, for which, how-

ever, no courts are held. One, called TIFFENDEN, formerly denominated *Tepindene*, in the southern part of this district, was anciently of such note as to be recorded in Domesday. It then constituted part of the possessions of Hugo de Montfort, being entered under the general title of his lands. The latter nobleman was son of Thurstan de Bastenberg, and accompanied the Norman Conqueror to the fatal battle of Hastings, for which service he was rewarded with the gift of many lordships, and among them this of Tepindene. Upon the exile of his grandson, it devolved to the crown ; when we find it in the possession of the Austen's, of Tenterden, whose heirs alienated the manor to Sir William Knatchbull, bart. of Mersham, in whose family it continued. The site of the mansion, as well as the moat, still remain, but there has been no house for many years.

THE OLD HOUSE, formerly called HALDEN HOUSE, stands at a small distance from the church, and was once the residence of the Scot's, of Halden. John died possessed of this seat in the reign of Henry VI.; and it remained in this family till Reynold Scott, about the time of Charles I. sold it to Sir Edward Hales, bart. It subsequently, by sale and mortgage, became, in the year 1782, the property of James Drake Brockman, esq. of Beechborough.

HALES PLACE is an ancient mansion, and eminent for having been the original seat of the family of the Hales's, in this county. Nicholas resided here in the reign of Edward III. when his descendants, under Henry VI. removed to Tenterden, but it still continued in that family till sold to the Waterman's, in whose descendants it remained.

HALDEN is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Charing. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, was built in the reign of Henry VII.; it is a rectory, and was once part of the possessions of the see of Canterbury. In the king's books it is estimated at £'9 4 7, the yearly tenths being £1 18 5½. In 1578, there were 226 communicants. It is now, generally speaking, of the yearly value of £160, and sometimes £200. There are five acres of glebe land annexed to this living.

In 1821, there were eighty-three dwellings in the parish of Halden ; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of parliament, the numbers of

inhabitants were as follow: males 373, females 351, making a total of 724 souls.

Woodchurch is the next parish south-eastward from Halden, being within the court of the bailiwic of the Seven hundreds, and claims paramount over the denne of Ilchenden, constituting a portion of the same, though the manors of Apledore and Wye claim over some parts of this district.

This parish stands rather high, being about five miles long from north to south, and three and a half broad. To the south-west is *Shirley house* and *farm*, which formerly belonged to the Clarke's, and afterwards to the Harlackenden's; from whom it was purchased by the Blackmore's, of Tenterden, which family possessed it in 1717. Below this farm is a large tract of marshes, called *Shirley*, or *Shirles moor*, three miles in length and two in breadth, lying in Woodchurch, Apledore, Eboney, and Tenterden, containing 1245 acres, called the *Upper Levels*, which belong to various proprietors.

About three quarters of a mile northward from the church, is *Redbrooke Street*, at which formerly resided a family named At-hale, which possessed lands in this and the neighbouring parishes.

The manor of Townland, otherwise *Woodchurch*, is subordinate to that of *Apledore*, and was part of those lands and estates assigned for the defence of Dover castle, to the constable of which it was allotted, and formed part of his barony. Ralph de la Thun held this manor and other lands in Woodchurch, who dying possessed of the same under Henry III. it acquired from him the name of Thunland, or Townland, and in his descendants continued down to Thomas Townland, who died possessed of it under Henry IV. It then passed to the Norton's, and under Henry VIII. was sold to the prior of Leed's convent, where it remained until the dissolution, when, by Henry VIII. it was granted to Lord Cromwell. On the attainder of that nobleman it was given to Sir Thomas Moile, who, under Edward VI. alienated the property to Thomas Lucas, who held it *in capite* under Elizabeth. It then went to the Godfrey's, by whom it was alienated to Mary, widow of Sir John Guldeford, who passed it to the Shelley's, of Michel grove, in which line it remained until the time of Charles II. At length, after some

intermediate owners, it became the property of the Richards's, and then of the Evans's, who were residents here.

The Place House, or *Woodchurch house*, stands east of the church, and was the ressidence of a family so called. Auchitel de Woodchurch held this property under the Conqueror; and in that famous line it remained until, by the marriage of a female heir, it passed to Henry le Clerk, of Munfidde, in the parish of Kingsnoth. In the Clerk's, or Clarke's, as they subsequently spelt the name, this property continued until sold to the Harlackenden's, who were residents here under James I. It then went to the Bridger's, of Canterbury, and afterwards to the Byrch's, of that city; upon which, Elizabeth, widow of Dejovas Byrch, dying in 1798, this property passed, by the marriage of Elizabeth, her daughter, to Samuel Egerton Brydges, esq. of Denton. The major part of this mansion was pulled down some years back, and the remainder is inhabited by various occupants.

Henden had for many years the same proprietors as the estate last described, of which it was esteemed an appendage, it is conjectured to have been the seat of the Henden family, who subsequently held Biddenden place. Under Richard II. it belonged to the Capell's, and so continued for several generations, when, by the marriage of a female heir, it devolved to the Harlackenden's. In the latter line it remained till Deborah of that name entitled her husband, Sir Edward Hales, to this estate, in which family it continued.

Harlackenden, or *Old Harlackenden*, continued several centuries in a family so called, which is supposed to have flourished at the time of the Conquest. After the year 1558 this property was alienated by George Harlackenden to the Bridger's, whose heirs, under Queen Anne, sold the estate to Sarah, widow of Sir Paul Barrett, who willed the same to her grandson, Sir Frances Head, bart. son of her first husband, and in that line it remained.

Henshurst formerly belonged to a family so called, anciently written *Enghurst*, and so remained until the reign of Henry VII. By marriage of a female heir, it then passed to the Wise's; and in like manner to the Masters's, in which name it continued.

Hengham, or *Great Hengham*, corruptly for *Engeham*, situated a mile and a half from Woodchurch, is enveloped in

woods. It was once a manor, possessed by a family so called under King John, and so remained till the time of Henry VIII. when it was transferred by marriage to the Isley's, and, by the unions of five females of that name, it went to their respective husbands, on which occasion the estate being partitioned off, was afterwards named *Great* and *Little Hengham*, the former having the ancient mansion and manor annexed thereto. That portion was subsequently alienated to the Hales's, who possessed it under James I.; in 1640 it was sold to the Godfrey's, of Lyd, then to the Clerke's, and again under Charles II. to the Groves's of Tunstall. Richard, a descendant of the latter, in 1792 willed this property to Mr. William Jemmett, and Mr. William Marshall, the former of whom, on a partition of his estates, became sole proprietor of the district A court-baron is held for this manor.

The other portion of this estate called *Little Hengham*, adjoins the southern part of the manor, and devolved to the heirs of the Abbot's, the Whitfield's, and the Comber's.

PLERYNDEN, or *Plunden*, as corruptly called, stands north of this parish, surrounded by woods, in the Denne bearing that name. In early times it was possessed by a family so called, until passed by a female heir to the Engham's, in which descent it remained till the time of Elizabeth. It was then sold to the Twysden's, of Chelmington; and in like manner, under Queen Anne, passed to the Hooker's, of Maidstone; in which name it continued until alienated to the Children's, of Tunbridge, who continued possessors of this property.

WOODCHURCH is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a spacious and handsome structure, containing three aisles, and the same number of chancels, having a spire steeple shingled at the west end. The windows in the high chancel are small and elegant, containing some remains of stained glass. In this portion of the building is a figure represented in brass, being the representation of Nicholas de Gore, priest, and another memento for William Benge *Capellanus*, obiit. 1437. There are also many tombs of the Harlackenden family, and one, in Bethersden marble, to Sir Edward Waterhous, chancellor of the Exchequer, &c. to Queen Elizabeth, in Ireland, obiit. 1591. In the windows were formerly

several effigies of the Clerke's, and the Harey's, no vestiges of which now remain. The font, a very ancient vessel, is of marble, being of a square form, and supported by four pillars.

This church was part of the ancient possessions of the see of Canterbury, and so continues at the present time. It is a rectory valued at £26 13 4, the yearly tenths £2 13 4. In 1640 the valuation was £110, the communicants amounting to 349; and in 1729, at £230 per annum. Two acres of glebe land are appendant to this living.

In 1821, there were 171 dwellings in the parish of Woodchurch; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 550, females 545, making a total of 1095 souls.

Shadoxhurst is the next parish eastward, that part within the borough of Old Harlackenden being in Blackborne hundred, and lower division of the lath of Scray, and western division of this county, and in the bailiwic of the Seven hundreds. A small portion northwards is in the hundred of Chart and Longbridge, and the residue to the south in the lath of Shipway, hundred of Ham, and eastern division of this county. The court of the bailiwic of the Seven hundreds claims paramount over most of this parish, and the manor of Tinton over a portion of the northern part.

This district is little frequented, being obscurely situated in a low, flat country, covered with coppice woods, which render it dreary and unpleasant. The soil is a deep miry clay, and the roads as bad as those of Halden, &c. The village occupies the centre of the parish, round a green, having the church at the south-east end.

This Manor is subordinate to the court of the bailiwic of the Seven hundreds, and anciently belonged to the Forstal's, written *At Forstal*, a family of note under Henry V. in the 3d year of whose reign John Forstal passed this property to the Stoky's, or Stoke's. In that line it continued many years, and was then sold to the Rundolph's, who disposed of it under Elizabeth, to the Taylor's. After the year 1665 this property went by sale to the Cooke's, of Swifts, in Cranbrooke, by whom it was

sold to the Malloy's, of Greenwich. Sir Charles of that name dying in 1760, bequeathed this estate to Charles Cooke, esq. who, pursuant to his uncle's will, assumed the name of Molloy, and in him it continued vested.

Criol's Court, called *Crayals*, is an estate that was possessed by the eminent family of that name, being one of their numerous seats in Kent. By a female heir, under Edward I. this property passed to the Rokesle's, and then in like manner to the Poyning's, in which name it continued to Sir Edward, under Henry VIII. who dying without any collateral kindred, his estates became escheated to the crown. By Henry VIII. this property was granted to the Taylor's, of Shadoxhurst, and then, by marriage of a female heir, it went to theWhitfield's, of Patrixborne, who alienated the same to the More's, under Charles I. Not many years after, this manor was again enjoyed by the Taylor's, Thomas of which name was in 1664 created a baronet. Since the above period this property descended in the same series of ownership, with the manor of Shadoxhurst, to Charles Cooke Molloy, esq. in whom it remained.

Minchen Court, in old deeds *Miniken's Court*, was part of the possessions of St. James's, afterwards St. Jacob's hospital, in Thanington, near Canterbury. Prior to the dissolution of that establishment, we find, at the very commencement of the reign of Henry VIII., that this property had devolved to the crown, as the monarch in question, in his 2d year, granted it to the Tatteshall's, to hold by fealty only, who sold this estate to Sir Edward Wooton. His grandson, Thomas Lord Wooton, dying in the 6th year of Charles I. the property fell to his four daughters, when Catherine the elder carried this estate in marriage to Henry Lord Stanhope, on whose demise she passed it by sale to the Harfleet's, of Canterbury. In 1703, by the foreclosure of a mortgage, it passed to the Courthope's, of Horsemonden, when Alexander, in 1779, willed this, with his other estates, to his nephew John Cole, in whom it remained.

Claypits is a manor in the eastern part of this parish, near Bromley green, and formerly held by the Hall's, of Kennington. Under Charles II. it went by sale to the Twysden's, of East Peckham, one of whose descendants alienated this estate to the Horne's, of New Romney. In 1787 it passed by sale to the

Deedes's, of St. Stephen's, whose eldest son, William, of Hythe, became possessor of the same, with the adjacent manor of *Bishopswood.*

Shadoxhurst is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to Saints Peter and Paul, is a mean structure, containing an aisle and a chancel. At the west end is a wooden building, with a small turret, the whole being in a very dilapidated state. In the north windows are some vestiges of stained glass, as well as in the east window of the chancel. Against the north wall of this part of the edifice is an elegant monument to Sir Charles Molloy, as well as a tomb to John Sewell, rector, obit. 1591.

This church is a rectory, long vested in the crown, and so continues, being a discharged living, valued at £38 a year, the tenths being 15s. 3½d. In 1578 here were seventy-nine communicants, and in 1640, sixty, the annual value being then £70. In 1769 this rectory was augmented by the governors of Queen Anne's bounty in £200, a like sum being also given by Mrs. Ursula Taylor, with which gifts lands were purchased in this parish yielding £16 per annum. The glebe lands consist of three small woods, containing nine acres.

In 1821 there were thirty-nine dwellings in the parish of Shadoxhurst; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 117, females 127, making a total of 244 souls.

Kenardington parish lies south from Shadoxhurst, a small portion of Woodchurch district only intervening, being frequently called *Kenarton,* a name conjectured to have been derived from one Cyneward, a Saxon owner. Most part is in the hundred of Blackborne, and the remainder in that of Ham, being within the liberty of the justices of Romney Marsh. Apledore claims over the southern parts of this district. The parish is small, lying at the edge of Romney Marsh, the church separating the same from the upland, or Weald of Kent, the west and northern parts abounding in coppice wood. The village and church stand on elevated ground, but the southern part is low, within the levels of the marsh. Below the hill are remains of

ancient fortifications and a circular mound, and in the marsh adjoining appears another, more extensive, having a causeway which apparently kept up a communication between the two. The works in question were probably raised during the wars between Alfred and the Danes, about the year 893, when a division of the latter sailed up the Limene, and entrenched themselves in the adjoining parish of Apledore.

The Manor of Horne, or Kenardington, was part of the lands assigned for the defence of Dover castle, to John de Fienes, constable of the same, which from him acquired the title of *Constabularie,* being held *in capite by barony.* Under King John it was so possessed by the Normanville's, or *de Normania,* whose descendant, Sir Thomas, under Edward I. held this manor, with Cockride, in Bilsington, by knight's service. By the marriage of his daughter, Margaret, it then passed to the Basing's, in which eminent family it remained till the reign of Henry VI. when, by marriage of a female heir, it became vested in the Mackworth's, of Derbyshire. George of that name, under Henry VII., alienated this property to the Wise's, whose descendant, Thomas, in the succeeding reign, conveyed it to the Horne's, who had flourished in the adjacent parish of Apledore as early as the time of King John. By marriage under Elizabeth, by the union of a female heir, this property went to Sir Richard Guldeford, who being indicted for refusing to take the oath of supremacy to the queen, fled the realm, with his wife, when both being attainted of treason, their lands were forfeited to the crown. By Elizabeth the fee of this manor was granted to Walter Moyle, in which name it remained till conveyed in marriage to the Breton's, of the Elmes, near Dover. Moyle Breton dying possessed of this estate, it passed to his two sons, who became jointly entitled to this manor, with the advowson of the church of Kenardington.

There is a feefarm of £40 a year payable out of this manor. It is *one of the lordships of Romney Marsh,* and entitles its owner to sit as a lord there, for the management of the walls, sewers, &c.

This parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury, and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is small, containing an aisle and chancel, with a pointed turret at the west end. There are no inscriptions

within its walls, and the font is particularly mean, being formed only of bricks and tiles. This structure was formerly much larger, but having in 1559 been struck by lightning, the present building was constructed out of the ruins. The original foundations are still apparent, particularly those of another aisle to the north.

This church is a rectory, the patronage being appendant to the manor of Kenardington, and so continues. It is valued at £12 1 0½, tenths £1 4 1¼. In 1578 the communicants were eighty-two, and in 1640 eighty-seven, the yearly value being then £60.

In 1821, there were thirty-six dwellings in the parish of Kenardington; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 110, females 86, making a total of 196 souls.

Apledore is the next parish to the south-west, accounted in Domesday record as being in the lath of Shipway, or Limawart, as therein written. That portion on Rhee wall to Redhill is in the liberty of the town of New Romney, and the residue in this hundred; a small portion only being in the liberty of Romney marsh, and jurisdiction of its justices.

By the Saxons it was called *Apuldre*, in Domesday *Apeldres*, and now *Apledore*, the name being derived from its low damp situation near the channel, which formerly flowed up to it from the ocean.

The situation of Apledore anciently differed from what it appears at the present day, having been a *maritime town*, to which large fleets navigated; but the Rother or Limene having failed, as frequently before observed, the district is now covered by pasturage and cattle. The soil of these parts is boggy and fenny, though the upper portion is rather sandy, having coppice wood thereon. It is about two miles and a half in length, and two in breadth, comprising about 2000 acres of land. The village stands low, close to the marshes, a quarter of a mile from the isle of Oxney, the church being on the eastern side, and the dwellings, which are meanly built, inhabited by graziers and smugglers. It is not only unhealthy owing to its contiguity to the marshes, but much more so from a large tract of swamp

called the *Dowles*, lying a mile from the village, within the marsh, being two miles long, and upwards of one broad, comprising 400 acres. One portion is very rarely free from water, and the other has some few plots of sound land in the dry season, but wholly overflowed in winter. Edward III. in his 32d year, granted to Christ church, Canterbury, a weekly market at this manor, now disused, and an annual fair on the 11th of January. Two are now held yearly, one on the above day, and the other on the 22d of June.

This Manor of Apledore was anciently held by Eadsy, a priest, who had license from King Canute and his Queen Ælgife, A.D. 1032, to dispose of the same as he should think fit, when he gave it to Christ church. It so continued till the Conquest; and when the primate Lanfranc divided the revenues of his church, Apledore fell to the share of the monks, being allotted *de cibo eorum*, as it stands in the records of that monastery.

In the 10th of Edward II. a charter of *free warren* was recorded to the prior for his manor of Apuldre, and Thomas Goldstone, prior in the time of Henry VI. wholly rebuilt the court lodge of Apledore, which had been destroyed by fire. At the dissolution, Henry VIII. by his dotation charter, settled it on his newly founded dean and chapter, with whom the inheritance still remains. A court-leet and court-baron is held for this manor yearly.

Hornes Place, or *Hornes Farm*, is an estate in the north-east part of this parish, and was for a length of time the residence of a family of that name. The succession ended in a female heir, who carried it in marriage to Richard Guldeford, gent. who being attainted, his lands were confiscated to the crown; soon after which, Hornes Place, in Apledore, was granted to Philip Chute, esq. in whose descendants it remained till 1721. It was then demised to Sir Edward Austin, bart. and subsequently became the property of William Dunning, esq.

This estate is now called Great Horne, to distinguish it from one styled Little Horne, in the adjoining parish of Kenardington. *Great Horne* appears to have been a very considerable estate, and there is still part of an ancient chapel remaining.

Frenchay is a manor that appears by old evidences to have

had owners of that name, but from the reign of Edward III. was possessed by the Haut's, until the time of Henry VIII., when a female heir carried it in marriage to Sir Thomas Wyatt, of Allington castle. He being attainted under Queen Mary, his heir was restored under Elizabeth, when he had a grant of the manor from that queen. In the reign of Charles I. we find it in possession of Thomas Floyd, or Fludd, gent. of Gore Court, in Otham, who in 1636, alienated the same to Sir Edward Hales, knight, of Tunstall, in whose descendants it continued down to Sir Edward, of St. Stephen's. There are no parochial charities, the poor constantly relieved are about sixty, casually sixteen.

Apledore is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to Saints Peter and Paul stands on a knoll of ground, close to the eastern side of the village, and is supposed to have been built on the site of the ancient castle destroyed by the French in 1380, being a very inconsiderable building. On the steeple, at the west end, over the outside of the door, is a *cross*, and in the middle the arms of *France* and *England*, and on the south side those of *Canterbury* impaling *Warham*. In the south chancel is an ancient tomb, supposed to be a memento of one of the family of the Horne's.

This church, under Richard II. was valued at £20, till it became vested in the crown under Henry VIII. when that king granted the advowson to Archbishop Cranmer, and his successors, in whom they continued. The vicarage of the church of Apledore is valued in the king's books at £21, and the yearly tenths at £2. In 1640 it was valued at £100, the communicants being 150.

In 1821, there were ninety dwellings in the parish of Apledore; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 288, females 271, making a total of 559 souls.

Kennington is the adjoining parish northward from Ashford, and was so called from having anciently belonged to some of the Saxon kings during the heptarchy. It was formerly written in Saxon *Cining-Tune*, signifying in that language *king's* town; and there is at this time, a small street of houses northward of the village, called King street.

This parish is healthy, though by no means fertile, and is watered by two small streams. There is a large handsome seat here built by Mr. Carter, who died in 1782, bequeathing the same to his only son, the Rev. George Carter. A fair is held yearly on the 5th of July.

THIS PLACE was given, in 1045, under Edward the Confessor, to the abbey of St. Augustine, the manor being afterwards called, from its low situation, (the court lodge near the river,) the *manor of Coninsgbrooke*, or Kennington. The vicarage remained part of the possessions of the above abbey till the dissolution, when Henry VIII. granted the capital messuage of Kennington, together with *Coningsbrooke*, &c. to Sir Anthony St. Leger, to hold *in capite*. Soon after, by exchange, they returned to the crown, when the king granted them to John Dudley, earl of Warwick, afterwards duke of Northumberland, on whose attainder, in the reign of Mary, A. D. 1553, they once more reverted to the crown, and were soon after granted to Edward Ditchfield, in trust for Sir Thomas Finch. He, on the death of his mother, in 1663, succeeded to the titles of Viscount *Maidstone* and Earl Winchelsea, at whose death, in 1769, they were by him demised to his nephew, George Finch Hatton, esq., of Eastwell. A court-baron is held for this manor.

BYBROOKE is an ancient seat in this parish, and was the patrimony of a family named Gawin, which resided there in the reigns of Henry III. and Edward I. It then passed to the Belknap's, one of whom being attainted under Richard II. it became forfeited to the crown, and was by the king granted to William Elly's, esq. of Burton, in this parish. Under Henry VI. it was conveyed by purchase to a Shelley, by whose heir it devolved to Mary, and thence was alienated to the Tilden's. It so remained till the reign of Elizabeth, when it was sold to Richard Best, and having passed through many other names, became vested in Captain Arthur Shorter, who dying, in 1753, unmarried, he by will left it to Mr. John Dunn, whose widow possessed the same in 1769.

The ancient mansion of Bybrooke has been many years in a ruinous condition.

BURTON is another seat in this parish, in old deeds written *Burston*, from having been the residence of a family of that name, which becoming extinct, the estate passed to the Ely's, or

Elly's, in whom it remained till the reign of Elizabeth. It was then alienated to Sir William Hall, of Bybrooke, one of whose heirs conveyed it, under Charles I. to William Randolph, gent. of Canterbury; when, by heirship, it went to William Kingsley, of Canterbury. After passing through many branches of the latter family, it devolved by entail to Mr. William Pink Kingsley, of London, who succeeded to this estate and manor.

Ulley is a small manor within the bounds of this parish, next to Boughton Aluph, but has now neither mansion or demesne lands that can be ascertained as belonging to it This property once belonged to the Criol's, from whom it passed through several hands to Sir Christopher Hales, whose heirs joined in the sale of the same to Sir Thomas Moyle, of Eastwell. His daughter carried it in marriage to Sir Thomas Finch, whose descendants, the earls of Winchelsea, continued it down to Daniel, earl of Winchelsea; when he dying, in 1769, without male issue, gave this manor to his nephew, George Finch Hatton, esq. of Eastwell.

Kennington House is an estate in this district, formerly the property of the Moyle's, of Buckwell, until a female heir conveyed it in marriage to Robert Breton. He dying in 1708, Moyle Breton, his heir, succeeded, who also died in 1735; when this property descended to the Rev. Moyle Breton, rector of Kenardington, who possessed this seat, with the estate of Kennington farm.

Kennington is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Charing. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, has one aisle and two chancels, wherein are several memorials of the Kingsley's and Randolph's, as well as one to John Best, esq., &c.

This church and advowson were formerly appendages to the manor, and part of the possessions of St. Augustine's monastery, where they remained till the dissolution. Henry VIII. then granted them to Sir Anthony St. Ledger, and subsequently to John, duke of Northumberland, on whose attainder they reverted back to the crown. By Queen Mary, in 1558, they were granted to the archbishop of Canterbury; and Elizabeth, in her 3d year, gave the rectory, then valued at £5, in exchange to Archbishop Parker; since which period they have continued vested in the see of Canterbury. This vicarage is valued in the king's books

at £12, but was afterwards a discharged living, estimated at £30. In 1587 there were 125 communcants; in 1640, 166, the estimate being £70. It was subsequently rated at about £100.

In 1821, there were sixty-five dwellings in the parish of Kennington; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 222, females 225, making a total of 447 souls.

HINXHILL, generally called HINXSELL, anciently written *Hengestelle*, is the next parish eastward from Kennington. The manor of *Bilsington* claims over the major part of this district.

HINXHILL is but little known, and has scarcely any traffic. The ancient mansion stood close to the south-west corner of the churchyard, the kitchen being all that now remains. A fair is held yearly, on the Saturday in Whitsun week, for pedlary.

In the year 1727 a species of *subterraneous* fire was observed in the valley between Goodcheape, in this parish, and Wye, which, in the space of six weeks, consumed nearly three acres of ground, burning every thing to red ashes, down to the very springs.

One Æthelferth, a servant of the abbot of St. Augustine's, about the year 864, by will, gave the land of Hengestefelle, which, according to Thorne, was a parish contiguous to that of Willesborough, northward, to the monastery in question, but Hugo de Montfort seized it in despite of the monks, when it was entered in Domesday under his possessions. Upon the exile of Robert, under Henry II. *the manor of* HINXHILL, with that of SWATFORD, or Swatfield, was held by the family of Strabolgie, earls of Athol; but Alexander Baliol, lord of Chilham, afterwards became possessed of the same under Henry III. in right of Isabel, his wife, widow of David de Strabolgie, who, by the courtesy of England, held them during her life. They then reverted to John earl of Athol, her son by her first husband, David, who dying under Edward III. she left two daughters, the youngest of whom carried these manors in marriage to John Halsham, of Halsham, in Sussex. Her grandson then passed them to Sir Robert Scott, lieutenant of the Tower of London; from whom they devolved to the Kempe's; and they, under Henry VIII. alienated the same to the Browning's. The Edolph's

afterwards possessed HINXHILL Court; and under James I. in 1631, Robert gave these manors, with the court-leet of the half-hundred of Longbridge, to Cecilia, his wife, who forfeited them by marrying Sir Francis Knolles, of Reading. They then passed to Mr. Samuel Edolph, her former husband's brother, who alienated them, under Charles I. to Edward Choute, of Bethersden. His heir, dying in 1721, demised these manors to Edward Austen, esq. of Tenterden; and in 1748 they became the property of his direct descendant, Sir John Honywood, of Evington.

WALTHAM was once accounted a manor, and anciently belonged to the family of the Criol's, from whom it went by marriage to the Rokesle's. It then became vested in the Poyning's, and so remained till Sir Edward, governor of Dover castle, died possessed of the same under Henry VIII. having no collateral kindred to claim his estates. The manor consequently became escheated to the crown, and was granted to Sir Richard Damsell, who passed it to the Goldhill's; after which it descended to Sir John Honywood, bart.

GOODCHEAPES, but more properly *Godchepes*, is an estate in the northern part of this parish, which, for a series of years, had owners of that name, one of whom died possessed of it under Edward I. In his descendants it remained till the time of Henry VIII. when, by an extraordinary will, it devolved to Mr. John Barrow, attorney, who dying in 1578, his daughter conveyed it in marriage to Mr. Robert Edolph. It has since become the property of Sir John Honywood, bart.

The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a small building, consisting of two aisles and the same number of chancels; and on the north side is a handsome monument to Robert Edolph, esq. and Cicely, his wife. This structure was anciently appendant to the manor, till Robert Edolph, by will, gave it to Cicely, his wife, for her life, or till she remarried, as before mentioned.

This parish is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The rectory is valued in the king's books at £7 16 8, and was afterwards a discharged living, of the clear yearly value of £34. In 1578 there were seventy-one communicants; and in 1640, the estimate was £60, the communicants being seventy. There are ten acres of glebe gland appendant to this living.

In 1821, there were twenty-two dwellings in the parish of

Hinxhill; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 82, females 64, making a total of 146 souls.

Willesborough is the next parish southward, anciently written Wyvelesberg, and now *Willesborough*, usually called *Wilsborough*. It is pleasantly situated in a dry, healthy country, the high road from Ashford to Hythe traversing this parish. Contiguous to the same stands Lacton green, containing a hamlet, where formerly resided the family of the Halls's, or Haules', until the reign of Charles I. when their property was sold. Part of the line of the Aucher's also lived here under James I.; as well as a branch of the Taylor's, of Shadoxhurst; and under Charles II. that of Sir John James. Contiguous to Lacton green stands the church, and within the southern bounds of the parish is a large handsome edifice, built by Thomas Boys, esq. of Sevington, in 1616.

This parish is about two miles across either way, the land being half arable, and half pasture, and not particularly mentioned in Domesday. The manor of Wye claims over such part as is in the borough of Henwood, or Hewet; but the manor of Kennington, or Coningsbrooke, claims over the greatest part. Subordinate to this is the manor of Sothertons, or Willesborough, which, by the description of the lands of Wyvelesberg, in very early times, belonged to the convent of St. Augustine, being, about the year 860, purchased of one Ædulph, for 2000d. At the same time, one Æthelferth bequeathed to that monastery lands in this parish, called *Ateleswortbe*, which was geldable; and there is still here a green called Atelworth, which points out where this land lay.

In more recent times this manor was held of the abbot by the family of Elys, or Ellis, whose principal residence was at Burton, in Kennington. About the reign of Edward IV. Southerton manor went by sale to the Brent's, who there continued till the reign of Henry VII. when Thomas, of Charing, dying in 1612, bequeathed it to his nephew, Richard Dering, esq. of Pluckley; in whose descendants it remained till Sir Edward, in 1635, alienated the property to Robert Scott, esq. of Mersham. The latter passed it to the Terry's, when Mr. Henry Terry, of Can-

terbury, gave it by will to his nephew, Mr. Thomas Perkins, of Dover. No court is held for this manor.

STREET-END was once of some note, and the residence of a family of the name of Master for several generations. The house has been long pulled down, but the garden walls still remain. It descended regularly in the above line till William Master, anno 1632, was murdered by his younger brother, Robert, upon his wedding-day, while at dinner, when the assassin fled, and was never after heard of. The story of Otway's Orphan is believed to have been taken from this unhappy event. *Two thirds* of their estates were alienated to William Tournay, gent. of Ashford, and *the other third* to his son, Robert, of Hythe, who sold the whole to Mr. Thomas Barker.

This parish is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a neat building, consisting of two aisles and the same number of chancels. In the high chancel are some good remains of stained glass, particularly the figure of a king, seated. On the south side is a cell for confession, and near it a monument to John Boys, and Frances, his wife. The family of the Master's also lie buried in the east end of this edifice.

The church of *Willesborough* was part of the ancient possessions of the monastery of St. Augustine in the reign of Edward II. where it remained till the final dissolution, under Henry VIII. when, being surrendered to the king, he settled it on his new dean and chapter of Canterbury.

The vicarage was valued in the king's books at £8 16 8, and the yearly tenths at 17s. 8d. In 1587 the communicants were 200. In 1640 it was valued at £60, the communicants being 240. There are four acres of glebe land appendant to this living.

In 1821 there were seventy-three dwellings in the parish of Willesborough; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 209, females 274, making a total of 483 souls.

SEVINGTON lies the next parish to Willesborough, in a south-eastern direction, being small, and having but few houses,

the church of which overlooks the Weald. The MANOR OF CONINGSBROOK claims *paramount* over the greatest part of this parish, by the name of THE YOKE OF DEVELAND; *subordinate* to which is THE MANOR OF SEVINGTON, that was most probably part of the possessions belonging to the convent of St. Augustine's, and taken from that institution by Hugo de Montfort, at the Norman Conquest. Upon the exile of his grandson, this estate, among others, devolved to the crown, and was then held by the family of the Criol's; after which, we find it possessed by the Scott's, of Scott's hall, who held it of Dover, by ward to the castle; in which line it continued for many generations. Under George I. this manor passed by sale to Sir Philip Boteler, bart. of Teston, and then descended by heirship to William Bouverie, earl of Radnor, who left it to his eldest son, William Henry Bouverie.

THE MOAT is another manor situated in this parish, below the hill adjoining to Willesborough; and was, in early times, the residence of a family of that name. Sir John de Sevington, a Saxon, born in the reign of Edward the Confessor, was possessed of this estate, and resided here under Henry III. His daughter, Maud, carried it in marriage to Sir John Barrey, a descendant of Sir Audrian Barrey, of Barrey, in Normandy, who came to England with Richard I. From the Barrey's, it passed in marriage to Vincent Boys, of Bekesborne, and was afterwards alienated to Mr. John Alcock, who carried it back to the Boys's by marriage. Thomas Boys, of Goodnestone, who lived under Henry VIII. pulled down this ancient seat, and removed the materials to rebuild his house at Willesborough; he died in 1659, when the property descended to Mr. Edward Boys, gent. of Willesborough.

NEW HARBOUR, generally called *New Arbour*, was once a manor and seat of some eminence, and under Henry VII. the property of the Elys's, of Kennington. Under Henry VIII. we find it in the possession of Henry Goulding, whose son, Robert, in 1592, alienated this property to Sir Edward Radcliffe, physician to James I. and in that family it continued till conveyed in marriage to Sir Charles Farnabye, of Sevenoke, who dying in 1798, his heirs inherited this manor.

In the BOOK OF AID, anno 20th of Edward III. mention is made of *the manor of Hawkyswell*, in this parish, which Isabel

de Hawkyswell then held by knight's service, and which Walter de Rokeslye had previously possessed in the same manner. Under Henry VIII. it appears that Edward Barrey died possessed of this estate, so that it most probably merged into the manor of the Moat, where it continued.

Sevington is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is very small, containing two aisles, and one chancel. There were some monuments to the families of the Barney's and Boys's, scarcely any vestige of which now remain.

The rectory is estimated in the king's books at £8 14 0½, and was afterwards a discharged living of £35 value. In 1570 it was estimated at £55, and subsequently advanced to £130 per annum.

In 1821, there were thirteen dwellings in the parish of Sevington; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 49, females 37, making a total of 86 souls.

Kingsnoth is sometimes called *Kingsnode*, and Leland has written it *Kinges-snode*. It is obscurely situated, and but little known. At a small distance from the church is the manor-house, still called the Park house. South-east of the church is *Mumfords*, which appears to have once been very spacious, and near is East Kingsnoth manor, moated round. Close to the western boundary is the manor-house of West Halks, having been a large and ancient building. In the low grounds, near the meadows, is also the site of the manor of Moorhouse, alike moated, not only for defence, but in order to drain off the water.

The Royal Manor of Wye claims paramount over this parish, the lord of which holds a court-leet here, for the borough of East Kingsnoth, subordinate to which is the manor of Kingsnoth. This district, in ancient times, was the residence of a family of that name, John de Kingsnoth having lived here in the reign of Edward I. It appears that Bartholomew de Badlesmere, who was attainted under Edward II. had some interest in this manor, which upon his attainder was escheated to the crown, and remained there till the time of Richard II. That prince

granted it to Sir Robert Belknap, who had previously purchased the portion which appertained to the family of Kingsnoth; but the latter having been also attainted and banished, it reverted again to the crown. On the petition of Hamon Belknap, his son, these lands were restored, of which he died possessed under Henry VI. We soon after find this estate in the possession of Sir Thomas Browne, of Beechworth castle, in whose descendants it continued till carried in marriage to Thomas Lord Leigh, of Stoneleigh. He alienated this property to the Andrews's, when Alexander settled it by Act of Parliament on the Hospital at Hoxton, commonly called Aske's hospital, in which establishment, with the manor of Morehouse, it became vested. *The other part* of the above-mentioned estate, belonging to the family of De Badlesmere, appears to have been subsequently granted to the abbot of Battle, in Sussex, by the name of the *manor of East Kingsnoth*. At the dissolution it was granted by Henry VIII. to Sir Edward Ringsley for his life, without any rent, and four years after, the king sold the reversion thereof to Sir John Baker, to hold *in capite*. He died in 1558, when the manor of West Kingsnoth descended to Sir John Baker, bart. who in the reign of Charles I. passed it by sale to Mr. Nathaniel Powell, of Ewehurst, in Sussex. In his descendants it continued down to Sir Christopher Powell, who, leaving it to his widow, it was sold to Mrs. Fuller, of Maidstone, and she, in 1775, devised it by will to William Coast, esq. of Sevenoke. There is no court held for this manor.

Mumfords, as it is now called, but more properly Montforts, is a manor in this parish, once the residence of the Clerc's, anciently written De Clerc, where it remained till the time of Edward I. By a female heir it was then conveyed in marriage to Sir Simon de Woodchurch, who changed his name to Clerke, when by one of that family it was alienated to John Taylor, of Willesborough. He again conveyed it to Edward Wightwick, gent. when William, a successor, sold this property to Mr. Swaffer, who resided here.

West Halks, or *West Hawks*, is a manor near the western bounds of this parish, held of the manor of Kenardington. It formerly belonged to the Halke's, whose pedigree had existed 300 years. Sampson de Halke died possessed of this manor in 1360, when it passed to the Taylor's, where it remained till the

reign of Henry VII. It was then alienated to the Clerc's, who sold it to Robert Honywood, esq. of Charing. How long it remained in that line we cannot ascertain, but find it for a length of time in the name of the Eaton's, of Essex.

KINGSNOTH is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is small, consisting of one aisle and a chancel. In the former is an ancient grave-stone, coffin-shaped, with old French capitals round it, now scarcely legible. Upon the north wall is the tomb of Humphrey Clarke, esq. and over the same, in an arch of the wall, an inscription to his memory, set up by his daughter's son, Sir Martin Colepeper.

The north chancel fell down some years ago, having belonged to the manor of Mumfords, in which were buried the Wightwick's, owners of the same. Formerly in that chancel was the figure of a knight, armed at all points, in memory of Sir William Parker, who died A.D. 1421.

The advowson of the rectory of this church was formerly part of the possessions of Christ Church priory, and after the dissolution granted to Archbishop Cranmer, who soon after reconveyed it to the crown. It was then given by Henry VIII. to Sir John Baker, and in his line it remained to Sir John Baker, bart. who under Charles I. alienated this estate to the Powell's, in which name it continued until under the patronage of William Stacy Coast, esq. of Sevenoke.

This rectory is valued at £11 9 9½, the yearly tenths at £1 2 11¾. In 1578 it was valued at £60, communicants 100. In 1640 the estimate was £50, communicants the same. Its present valuation is £140; the rector takes no tithes of wood below the hill southward; seventeen acres of glebe land are appendant to this living.

In 1821, there were forty-eight dwellings in the parish of Kingsnoth; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 204, females 168, making a total of 372 souls.

MERSHAM is the next parish to Kingsnoth, and the last in this hundred. It is written in Domesday *Mersham*, a small district is in the hundred of Bircholt Franchise, and the remain-

der in this of *Chart* and *Longbridge*. Mersham is situated four miles from Ashford, in a dry and pleasant country; on the north side is the mansion and park of Hatch, a beautiful building, the apartments being superb as well as commodious. The rector's house is a large convenient mansion, and once belonged to Mr. Turner Marshall. About a field distant from the church stands a large old house, called the *Boys's house*, inhabited for several generations by a branch of the Boys's family. There is a fair held in this parish, on the Friday in Whitsun-week, for pedlary and toys. The MANOR OF WYE claims over some small part of this parish, as do those of Polton, Saltwood, and Brockholt, over other parts of the same.

Mersham was given by one Seward, and Matilda his wife, to the monks of Christ church; yet, notwithstanding this gift, it is entered in the records of Domesday among the archbishop's lands. In the reign of Edward I. the monks appear again to have possessed it, and it continued vested with them till the dissolution of the priory, under Henry VIII. when it came into the king's hands, who settled it upon his new made dean and chapter of Canterbury, in whose possession it remains. A court-baron is held for this district by the dean and chapter.

Hatch is a manor and seat in this parish, and was anciently written *Le Hatch*, once possessed by the family of the Edwards's, where it remained till the reign of Henry VIII. after which it was sold to Richard Knatchbull. His successor was his nephew and heir, Norton, who resided at Hatch, whose descendant, Sir Edward Knatchbull, died in 1730. Sir Wyndham Knatchbull, to whom it descended in 1733, took the surname and arms of Wyndham, when this property ultimately came to Edward, who in 1785 married Mary, daughter and coheir of Western Hugesson, esq. of Provenden.

QUARINGTON, or QUATHERINGTON, as it was sometimes written, is a small manor lying in the valley, north of this parish, and was once the property of owners of that name. Soon after this line became extinct, it fell into the possession of Nicholas Blechenden, and then passed to the Godfrey's of Simnell. In the reign of Elizabeth it was alienated to the Claget's of Canterbury, who passed it by sale to Henry Estday, of Saltwood, when he sold this manor to Sir Edward Knatchbull, of Mersham Hatch.

MERSHAM is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, consists of two aisles, and the same number of chancels. In the north window of the high chancel is the figure of a bishop, with his mitre and crosier, as well as several memorials to the Knatchbull family. In the south chancel is a superb tomb, being the memento of Sir Norton Knatchbull, who died in 1636, under which is a vault, wherein that family lies buried. The arms of the Septvan's and the Fogge's were formerly in one of the windows of the high chancel. The church of Mersham was anciently appendant to the manor, and belonged to the convent of Christ church.

This rectory was valued in the king's books at £26 16 10½, and the yearly tenths at £2 13 8½. In 1578 there were 280 communicants, and in 1640 it was valued at £80.

In 1821, there were eighty-nine dwellings in the parish of Mersham; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were, males 410, females 366, making a total of 776 souls.

THE TOWN AND PARISH OF ASHFORD

Is the next adjoining to *Hothfield*, eastward, and called in Domesday both *Estefort* and *Essetesford*, and in other records *Esshetesford*. A small part of this parish only is in the borough of Henwood, which extends into that of Willesborough, the whole being within the liberty of the manor of Wye, and the borough of Rudlow, which adjoins *Kingsnoth* and *Great Chart*. Ashford, at the time of taking the general survey of Domesday, was part of the possessions of Hugo de Montfort, under the general title of whose lands it was entered. Upon the exile of Robert, his grandson, it came to the crown, when it appears to have been possessed by a family bearing the name of Asshetesford, when it passed to the Criol's, who held it *in capite*. In the reign of Henry III. William de Criol alienated this estate to Roger de Leyborne, whose son, William, died possessed of it in the reign of Edward II. leaving his daughter, Juliana, heir to all these lands, who has been styled the Infanta of Kent. She died without issue, and in the reign of Edward III. these estates were escheated to the crown, till Richard II. vested them in feoffees for the performance of certain religious ceremonies; and they were then, by the king's licence, purchased, with *those of Wall and Esture*, of the crown, towards the endowment of St. Stephen's chapel, in the king's palace, at Westminster. The whole was confirmed by King Henry IV. and VI.; after which, Edward IV. granted a fair to this town yearly, on the feast of St. John Port Latin. In the reign of Edward VI. this collegiate chapel was, with all its possessions, surrendered into the king's hands, who soon after granted the manor of Esshetford, with those of Wall and Esture, to Sir Anthony Aucher, of Ottenden, to hold *in capite*, who, in the reign of Philip and Mary, sold them to Sir Andrew Judd, of London. His daughter then conveyed them in marriage to Thomas Smith, esq. of Westenhanger; in which family it continued down to Sir John Smith,

who dying in 1609, his son, Sir Thomas, was, in 1628, created viscount Strangford, of Ireland. In 1709, Henry lord Teynham marrying his eldest daughter, he became possessed of the manors of Ashford, Wall, and Esture; and in that family they remained through several successions, when, in 1765, they were sold to Francis Hender Foote, of Bishopsborne, who, in 1768, parted with the *manor of Wall, otherwise Court at Wall,* to John Toke, esq. of Great Chart, whose son, John, died possessed of the manors of Ashford and Esture in 1773. A court-leet and court-baron is held regularly here.

The Farm of Demesne lands, however, of the *Manor of Esture*, or *Eastoner,* were, many years back, alienated by one of the Smyth's, viscounts Strangford, and have been from that time in the possession of separate owners, from those of Ashford manor. It was afterwards the property of the heirs of Mr. Rooke.

The Manors of Great and Little Repton, called in Domesday *Rapentone,* formerly belonged to St. Augustine's monastery, and are entered under the title of the bishop's lands. The manor of Rapentone was divided into two, called *Great* and *Little, as above,* and was held by knight's service of the family of Valoigns. Ruellon de Valoigns held them in the reign of Stephen, and Henry de Valoigns afterwards held them under Edward III. His descendant, Waretius de Valoigns left two daughters, one of whom marrying Sir Francis Fogge, he, upon a division of their patrimony, acquired this as his wife's dower. He died possessed of these manors, and was buried in Cheriton church, the figure on his tomb being habited in armour, and represented cross legged, with his arms on the surcoat, impaling those of Valoigns. His descendant, Sir John, being attainted in the reign of Richard III. for his attachment to Edward IV. his lands became forfeited, though King Richard gave his royal word for the protection of his person. He lived to be restored by a reversal of the above Act, on the accession of Henry VII. and his figure is represented in the church, under a handsome tomb, with his arms quartered with those of De Valoigns. He founded a *college* therein, and became a great benefactor to the same. In his descendants the manors of *Great* and *Little Repton* continued down to Sir John Fogge, of Repton, who, on the dissolution of the college of Wye, in the

reign of Henry VIII. had a grant of the *manor of Licktopp*, in this parish. He died in 1564, and was succeeded by his heir, Edward Fogg, esq. whose uncle sold them to Sir Michael Sondes; and he alienated them to John Tufton, esq. of Hothfield, afterwards earl of Thanet. In his descendants, earls of Thanet, these manors of Great and Little Repton and Licktopp continued down to Sackville, earl of Thanet. A court-baron is held for the manor of Great Repton, and another for that of Licktopp.

The town of Ashford is pleasantly situated, the houses being mostly modern, and the High street of considerable width, the inhabitants being of genteel rank in life. At the east end of the town is a seat called *Brooke place*, formerly held by the family of the Woodward's. John died possessed of it in 1757, when it was purchased by the widow of Moyle Breton, esq. whose heirs alienated it to Josias Pattenson, esq. of Biddenden; and it afterwards passed to Mr. Henry Dering, gent. of this parish. That branch of the river Stour which rises at Lenham, continues its course at the east end of the town, where there is a stone bridge of four arches. On the south side of the river, next to Kingsnoth, within the borough of Rudlow, is the yoke of Beavor, with the hamlet and farm of that name, possessed, in very early times, by a family so called, John, being descended from an ancestor who came over with William the Conqueror. In the summer of 1625, the plague ravaged this town in a dreadful manner. The family of Osborne, duke of Leeds, was of this place; and Robert Glover, esq. Somerset herald, a laborious antiquary, was also born here.

William III. in 1696, created Arnold Joost Van Keppel, baron Ashford, and earl of Albermarle, whose great grandson, William, afterwards enjoyed those titles.

Sir Norton Knatchbull, in the reign of Charles I. began the foundation of a *free grammar school* in this town, and allowed the master a salary of £30 per annum.

Ashford is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Charing. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a large handsome building, consisting of three aisles, with a transept and three chancels. In the high chancel is the tomb of Sir John Fogge, founder of the college here, who died in 1490, together with his two wives. In Weever's time there were six achievements to this family, whose

burials had been attended by the heralds at arms, with other ceremonies suited to their rank. On the pavement is a very ancient grave-stone, bearing the figure of a woman in brass, holding in her left hand a banner, with the arms of the Ferrer's, and formerly, in her right, another, with the arms of the Valoigns's; while over her head were those of England and France quarterly. Weever says, she was the wife of David de Stralbolgie, earl of Athol, and daughter of Henry lord Ferrers, of Groby. In the north chancel lay three of the family of the Tufton's. The south cross is parted off for the family of the Smith's, lords of Ashford manor, who lie in a vault beneath. Here are three superb monuments, which, some few years past, were beautified by the late chief baron, Smith, a descendant of this family. There was formerly much curious painted glass in the windows, particularly the figures of one of the family of the Valoigns's, with his two wives and children; and in the south window of the cross aisle, as well as other windows, the figures of King Edward III. the Black Prince, Richard duke of Gloucester, Lord Hastings, Sir William Haute, Lord Scales, Richard earl Rivers, the Duchess of Bedford, his wife, Sir John Fogge, &c.; none of which are now remaining.

This church was re-beautified by Sir John Fogge in the reign of Edward IV. who built the sumptuous tower, and founded, by his licence, a college and choir, and obtained an endowment of lands sufficient for the support thereof, in this county, as well as Essex and Sussex, all of which grants were confirmed by the king. That monarch, however, dying before the whole was legally completed, and Sir John Fogge being attainted, nothing further was done towards the same. Notwithstanding this, the founder, by his will, took care to leave sufficient for the repairs of the church, by devising a legacy in trust for that purpose, consisting of a tenement and lands, in Asshetisford, which he had purchased, that the same might continue so for evermore.

The church of Ashford was once part of the possessions of the priory of Horton, having been given at the first foundation of that establishment by Robert de Vere, which gift was confirmed by King Stephen. It then became part of the possessions of the priory of Leeds, where it remained till the dissolution, when, devolving to the crown, Henry VIII. settled them

on his new erected dean and chapter of Rochester, part of whose possessions they remained.

This vicarage was valued in the king's books at £18 4 2, and the yearly tenths at £1 16 5. In 1640 the estimation was £100, and the communicants 630; whereas, in 1649, the valuation was only £50.

In 1821 there were 469 dwellings in the parish of Ashford; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 1328, females 1445, making a total of 2773 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF CHART AND LONGBRIDGE

Lies next southward from that of Calehill, having formerly been two separate hundreds, namely, Great Chart and of Longbridge, called in Domesday *Cert and Langebridge*, which appear to have been distinct under Edward III. Great Chart contained Ashford, Chart, Bethersden; Hothfield and Longbridge comprehended Wilsborough, Kennington, Sevington, Kingsnoth, Mersham, Hinxhill, and part of Ashford.

It comprehends within its boundaries the following parishes: Bethersden *in part*, Great Chart *in part*, Hothfield *in part*, Kennington, Hinxhill, Wilsborough, Mersham *in part*, Sevington, and Kingsnoth, and the churches of the same; together with part of the parishes of Ashford and Shadoxhurst, whereof the churches stand in other hundreds. Two constables have jurisdiction over this district, which formerly comprised the *town and liberty of Ashford*, comprehending the church and the major part of that parish, long since made *a separate jurisdiction*, having a constable of its own.

Bethersden is the next parish eastward from Smarden; that portion of this district laying in Hales, Bridge, and Engeham, or Provenden, is in Blackborne hundred, and the residue in that of Chart and Longbridge, wherein the church stands, and part in Calehill hundred. The liberty of the manor of Wye claims over the borough of Snodehill, in the north of this division.

This parish occupies the bounds of the Weald adjoining Pluckley, below the quarry hills, and comprises about 4000 acres. It lies low and flat, the soil being a stiff miry clay, and the country dreary; the roads are wide, having green sword on either side, similar to those about Halden and Woodchurch. There is much coppice wood of oak, and the houses are mostly built round the small greens which are in different parts of the parish. The head of the Medway rises near Goldwell, in Great Chart, run-

ning along towards Smarden. The turnpike road from Tenterden to Halden crosses this parish, over Bull green, round which is a hamlet of houses, towards Great Chart, and thence to Ashford, north-eastward. There was a kind of turbinated marble dug in this parish, but the quarries are now little used; it bears a good polish if dug up in its perpendicular state, but, if horizontally excavated, peels off in flakes. It was once in great esteem in this county for decorating the religious buildings; the cathedrals of Canterbury and Rochester abounding with the same. On the south-east side of Bull green is a house which was, for many years, possessed by the Wilmott's. The church stands at a small distance northward from the green, on a small rise of ground. To the south is a good house, called the Thorne, from a large thorn-tree growing near it, which, in the time of Charles I. belonged to a branch of the family of the Whitfield's, of Tenterden, who died possessed of it in 1660. His grandson, of Thorne house, died in 1782, leaving two daughters, one of whom, by marriage, conveyed it to William Curteis, esq. of London, son of Edward Curteis, of Tenterden.

A fair is held here yearly, on St. Margaret's day.

THE MANOR OF OLD SURRENDEN, otherwise BETHERSDEN, lies near the eastern bounds of this parish, and was formerly the seat of the Surrenden's, from whom it acquired the name of OLD SURRENDEN. In the reigns of John and Henry III. Adam de Surrenden, called in old deeds *Suthrinden*, was owner of this manor. In that name it continued till the reign of Henry VI. when John Surrenden alienated it to Cardinal Kempe, who settled it on his newly founded college of Wye. It so remained till the dissolution, when Henry VIII. passed it to Walter Bucler, esq. who, two years after, alienated this estate to Sir Maurice Denny's; and he, in the reign of Edward VI. sold it to Sir Anthony Aucher; when it passed to Philip Choute, esq. standardbearer to Henry VIII. In 1721 this manor was devised by a Choute to Edward Austen, esq. of Tenterden, who sold it to Thomas Best, esq. of Chilston, in Boughton Malherb, who died possessed of it in 1793, leaving it by will to his youngest son, George Best, of Chilston.

THE MANOR OF LOVELACE is situated at a very small distance from the church, and was, in early times, the property of a family named Greensted, or Greenstreet. Henry de Greensted

passed away this manor to the Kinet's, when William Kinet, in the reign of Edward III. conveyed it by sale to John Lovelace, who erected the mansion here, which bore his name in addition, being afterwards called *Bethersden Lovelace*. At length, after this manor had for many generations continued in that family, Colonel Richard Lovelace, soon after the death of Charles I. passed it away to Mr. Richard Hulse, a descendant of the ancient family of that name, of Nantwich, in Cheshire. His son and grandson both resided here, the latter of whom soon after alienated the manor to Edwyn Stede, esq. of Harrietsham place, who, in 1735, sold this estate to William Horsemonden Turner, esq. of Maidstone. His widow, in 1782, bequeathed it to Charles Booth, esq. according to her husband's will; when, in 1795, it devolved by entail to William Baldwin, esq. of Harrietsham place.

Frid, generally called the *Frid Farm*, is a manor in the northern part of this parish, and once possessed by the Mayney's. John, of Biddenden, died possessed of this estate in the reign of Edward III.; upon the extinction of which line, the Darell's, of Calehill, became its possessors, and in them it continued till the time of Richard III., when Sir John Darell, being attainted for espousing the cause of the earl of Richmond, his estates were seized, and this manor granted, by the name of Friden Boderson, to the duke of Norfolk. The latter being killed at the battle of Bosworth, Henry VII. restored this manor to Sir John Darell, whose descendant, under Elizabeth, alienated it to Thomas Gibbon, of Rolvenden. The last female heir of that name then carried it in marriage to Edward Choute, esq. of Surrenden; from whom it passed to William Baldwin, of Harrietsham place.

Hacchesden, now called *Eytchden*, is another manor, which joins a heath or haugh at the north-east bounds of this parish, and was once a member of the manor of *Boughton Aluph*, held of the honour of Bolougne, though in Henry III.'s reign one William de Hacchesden had some claim to its possession. Stephen de Bocton inherited this estate under Edward I. holding it *in capite*, when it soon after passed into the family of Burghersh. We next find it in the possession of Thomas de Aldon, who died in the reign of Edward III. when the reversion passed to Sir Thomas Tryvet, in right of his wife, a daughter of whom carried it in marriage to the family of Brockhull, of Saltwood. One of

the latter, Thomas de Brockhull, of Calehill, in the reign of Henry IV. enfeoffed John Darell in this manor, in whose family it continued till about the reign of James I. and then became alienated to the Tufton's, in whose descendants it remained down to Sackville, earl of Thanet. There was once a *chapel* at this manor of Hechendenne, which has been long in ruins. Archbishop Hubert, in the reign of Richard I. confirmed the church of Bethersden, together with this chapel, to the priory of St. Gregory in Canterbury, among the rest of its possessions.

Wissenden is a district lying at the north-west bounds of this parish, in which there is a seat of that name, possessed for several centuries by the family of Witherden, anciently written Wetherynden. Thomas Witherden, gent. died here in 1663, and the property continued in his descendants in a right line, with the manor of Thornden, in this parish, down to Thomas Witherden, esq. of Wissenden.

Bethersden is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Charing. The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, consists of three aisles, and the same number of chancels. In the middle aisle lie the Wilmott's of this parish, and in the centre chancel the Witherden's; there is likewise a grave-stone in brass for William Lovelace, gent. of London, and several more to that family. Within the altar rails are some memorials to the Dynes's, ancestors of those of Milton. The south chancel is called the Lovelace chancel, in which many of the family of the Hulse's are entombed. The north chancel is denominated the Frid chancel, wherein the line of Choute lie buried. On the north side of the church there was a perpetual chantry founded in the reign of Henry VI. anno 1459, by William Lovelace, mercer and merchant of London, which was confirmed by the above king. This chantry was dissolved under Edward VI. but the tenths were continued to be paid to the crown receiver, being 13s. 0½d.

This church was part of the ancient possessions of the priory of St. Gregory, founded by Archbishop Lanfranc. Archbishop Hubert confirmed this church of St. Margaret of Beatrichesdenne, with the chapel of Hecchesdenne, under Richard I., and in the reign of Richard II. this church was appropriated to the above priory, and a vicarage endowed from the same. It so

remained till the dissolution, when it was surrendered to the crown, and so remained but a short time, an Act having passed to enable the archbishop to exchange the site of the late dissolved priory of St. Radigund for that of St. Gregory. The church of Bethersden thus becoming part of the possessions of the see of Canterbury, was demised by the archbishop to the above-mentioned priory, on a beneficial lease for twenty-one years. The vicarage was valued in the king's books at £12 per annum, and the yearly tenths at £1 4 0. In 1587 there were 352 communicants, and in 1640, 400, its valuation at that period being £120.

In 1821, there were 142 dwellings in the parish of Bethersden; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 521, females 480, making a total of 1001 souls.

Great Chart lies adjoining *Bethersden* to the north-east. It was in the time of the Saxons called both *Selebertes* and *Sybertes Chert*, no doubt from the name of its owners. In Domesday it is written *Certh*, and in later records East Chart, but more usually *Great* or *Mochel Chart* most likely from its great extent, and also to distinguish it from the parish of *Little Chart*. It contains *two boroughs*, namely Bucksford and Chelmington, and is in the eastern division of this county.

Great Chart is very healthy, lying partly on the lower ridge of hills, usually called the quarry hills, which cross this parish; having the village and church on the summit, and the court lodge near them. The ruins of the market-place were to be seen in the field where the fair is now kept, and the church was probably but a chapel, when this town was burnt by the Danes, after which period Ashford began to rise, and grow out of its ruins. The church is in the northern boundary of the Weald, into which this district extends about two miles southward. The high road from Tenterden, through Bethersden to Ashford, runs through this parish, and the village of Great Chart north-eastward. This district is watered by the separate heads of the Medway and the Stour, which direct their course contrariwise; the former rising near Goldwell, running westward along the southern bounds, the latter flowing on the other side of the hills along the northern

part eastward, towards Ashford, and then pursues its course through this parish, turning corn-mills at Wurting and Buksford. The soil is a stiff clay, while on the hill, and in other parts, quantities of quarry stone are found. That part fronting the Weald is much the same soil as previously described under the heads of Halden, Bethersden, &c. in the vicinity. From the foot of the hill, northwards, towards Godinton, is fertile pasturage, and excellent fatting land. The mansion of Godinton was much improved some years back by Mr. Toke, of Canterbury, who resided there; the front towards the north is modern, but that to the east ancient. In the hall are a collection of portraits, some by Cornelius Jansen, and other equally eminent masters. The staircase is of very ancient carved work, most of the windows are enriched by the family armorial bearings in stained glass; the drawing-room is curiously wainscotted with oak, carved, representing men in military costumes, &c.

The gardens and pleasure-grounds were, in 1770, laid out by the then famous Mr. Driver, the trees being now of an astonishing size, showing the fertility, as well as the depth of the soil, the oaks flourishing more luxuriantly than the ash or chesnut planted contiguous to the same. A vineyard once existed at Godinton, which produced wine of a very extraordinary flavor. This parish does not extend above 100 yards from Godinton, ere it is joined by that of Ashford. The fair, from an alteration in the style, is held on the 5th of April for bullocks and sheep. This district is so remarkably healthy that Captain Nicholas Toke, who died in 1680, was aged ninety-three years, while the ages of his four predecessors made up 430 years.

On the 1st of May, 1580, was felt the shock of an earthquake in this parish, which created great alarm among the inhabitants.

King Cenewolf, A.D. 799, at the request of Archbishop Athelard, restored to Christ church, Canterbury, the lands his predecessor Offa had taken from the primate Janibert, among which was this manor, then called *Selabertes Ceart,* when it was bestowed free from secular and regal tribute *ad vestimentum monichorum.* In this state the manor continued at the taking of Domesday, being therein entered as lands appertaining to the archiepiscopal see.

Under Edward II. the prior of Christ church obtained a grant

of *free warren* in the *manor of Great Chart*, and Henry VI. granted a market weekly, and a yearly fair on Lady-day. Soon after the dissolution it was settled by Henry VIII. on his dean and chapter of Canterbury, in whose inheritance it still continues. The manorial rights, together with the court-leet and court-baron, are vested in the above body.

CHELMINGTON is a manor in the south of this parish, within the boundary of the Weald, next to Kingsnoth, called in old records Chelmanton, or Chilmandon. It was once held by a family so named, which resided here for many generations. It then passed to the Twisden's, and in that line continued till the reign of Queen Anne, at which period it was alienated to the Hooker's, of Great Chart; when, after 1765, it went by the marriage of a female heir, to the Bartelot's, of Stopham.

The borsholder for the borough of Chelmington was formerly chosen at the manor court, but the custom is now disused, being at the present day appointed at the court of Chart manor.

SHINGLETON, corruptly so called, *Singleton* being its original name, is an estate near the south bounds of this parish, about one mile from Chelmington. It was formerly of note, and had owners bearing that name, who for some generations flourished here until the reign of Henry VI. when it was passed to the Engeham's. In the latter name this estate continued till the commencement of the reign of James I. when it was conveyed to the Brown's, and then, by marriage of a female heir, went to the Andrew's, of Buckinghamshire. It next became the inheritance of Thomas Lord Leigh, baron of Stoneleigh, in Warwickshire, and he alienated this estate to the Andrew's, when it subsequently passed to the Haberdasher's company of London, as trustees for the support of the hospital at Hoxton, commonly called Askes' hospital, who still possess this property.

GOLDWELL is a manor of very high antiquity, situated on the quarry hills, a mile west from Chart church, described in Domesday under the title of *Godeselle*, when it constituted part of the possessions of the bishop of Bayeux. This manor, afterwards known by the name of Goldwell, was held by a family which thence derived its name, being of note as early as King John. In the above famous line this estate continued until the reign of James I. when it was alienated to the Wythim's, of Eltham, who sold it to the Tufton's, of Hothfield, afterwards earls of

Thanet. In that family this property has remained, having long since forfeited the name of a manor, being now called Great and Little Goldwell farms.

NINNEHOUSE is a manor north of the quarry hill, near the Stour, anciently the residence of John at Nin, this property having so continued to the reign of Henry VI. when it was alienated to the Sharpe's. Having continued many generations in that line, it went by sale to the Curteis's, and then to Mr. Hilkiah Bedford, the famous nonjuring writer. Lastly, by the marriage of Elizabeth, a female heir, it went to Mr. John Claxton, of Shirley, near Croydon, Surrey, who in her right became proprietor of this property.

COURT WURTIN, called *Worting farm*, lies farther west, contiguous to the river Stour, and formerly ranked as a manor, having had owners so denominated. By Thomas de Wurtin, last of this name under Henry IV. it was passed to the Goldwell's, of Godinton, when by the marriage of the heir general of William Goldwell, who died in 1485, this manor and seat went to the Toke's, of Bere, in which line it continued.

GODINTON is an old mansion in the south-west part of this parish, north of the river, next to Hothfield, once the residence of a family so called. In the above name this estate remained until the reign of Richard II. when it was passed to Richard Simon and John Champneys, who under Henry IV. sold it to the Goldwell's. By the marriage of a female heir of the latter house, she entitled her husband, Thomas Toke, to this seat of Godinton, with other estates in this parish, and elsewhere.

BUCKSFORD, or *North Stower,* lies contiguous to the river Stour, on the road to Ashford. It formerly ranked a manor, and, under Henry VIII. belonged to the Baker's. It afterwards passed to the Clark's, of Woodchurch, then to the Toke's, and afterwards to the Fleete's, by whom this property was sold to the Crispe's, of Quekes, in Thanet. One of the latter family then conveyed this estate to the Andrews's, who, in 1690, sold it with Shingleton, &c. to the Haberdasher's company, of London, for the support of Askes' hospital, at Hoxton, and in that company it is still vested.

This parish is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Charing. The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is a handsome structure,

comprising three aisles, and the same number of chancels, with a well-built tower steeple at the west end. The north and south ailes are leaded, and the middle aisle and chancel tiled. The north chancel is divided lengthwise, that to the north belonging to the Haberdasher's company, and that southward to the Toke's, of Godinton.

There are some monuments in this church, particularly mementos of the Toke family, and in the windows armorial bearings in painted glass; and formerly, according to Weever, many figures of saints, as well as the representations of personages who had flourished in these parts. The south chancel is also divided, the north part belonging to the Bartelot's, and the south to the earl of Thanet. In this part of the building are tombs of the Hooker's, the Twisden's, the Sharpe's, and the Cowldwell's, and in the churchyard several others to the same families. James Goldwell, bishop of Norwich, a native of Goldwell, who died in 1499, was a great benefactor to this church; he also founded a chantry in the south chancel, which was dissolved under Edward VI.

Clement Frensham, in 1544, bequeated *an obit* of 6s. 8d. upon Relic Monday, in this church, for divine mass, what was spared to go to the poor for ever. For that bequest he bound all his lands in Kent, appointing the curate and his successors overseers of his will.

The advowson of this rectory was esteemed an appendage to the manor, and constituted part of the possessions of Christ church, Canterbury. At the dissolution it was, by Henry VIII. granted under the description of *Moche Chart*, to Sir Thomas Wyatt, of Alyngton; but, on the attainder of his son, under Queen Mary, being forfeited to the crown, it so continued until Queen Elizabeth exchanged it, for other premises, with the archbishop of Canterbury, in whom it has ever since remained vested.

This rectory is valued at £25 6 0½, the yearly tenths £2 10 7¼. In 1640 the estimate was £100, the communicants being then 300; its actual worth is £200 per annum. Twelve acres of glebe land are appendant to this living.

In 1821, there were 117 dwellings in the parish of Great Chart; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of parliament, the numbers of inhabi-

tants were as follow: males 357, females 302, making a total of 659 souls.

Hothfield lies northward from Great Chart, being so called from the *Hothe*, or heath, within this parish. The greater part lies in the hundred of Chart and Longbridge, and the residue in that of Calehill, being in the division of East Kent.

Hothfield parish is two miles from Ashford, the high road thence towards Lenham and Maidstone traversing this district, over the heath. It contains 1250 acres, being unpleasant, and accounted unhealthy, owing to the low and watery lands in the vicinage.

The river Stour, which rises at Lenham, runs along the south side of the parish, which is also watered by several smaller streams rising about Charing and Westwell, from under the chalk hills, and join the Stour here. The heath, comprising about half the parish, consists of deep sand, with peat continually dug up by the poor for firing. On the east and west sides of the heath, the latter being called West street, are two hamlets, forming the scattered village of Hothfield. The Place house stands upon an eminence southward, forming a principal object to the surrounding country. It is square, and built of Portland stone, having been erected by one of the earls of Thanet, on the site of the ancient mansion, close to the church, and commands a fine prospect. The grounds are extensive, and the water, which rises contiguous, soon swells into a good stream, and, running in view of the house, joins the Stour above Worting mill. The parsonage house, a neat residence of white stucco, occupies the southern corner of the heath, and at the foot of the hills adjoining the Place grounds, near West street. Between the heath, and Potter's corner, towards Ashford, the soil approaches much the quality of quarry stone.

Though the land is generally poor, it is rendered productive by the chalk and lime procured from the Down hills. The inhabitants have unlimited right of common, with those of Westwell parish, as well as liberty to dig peat, which leads numbers of paupers to reside here.

Jack Cade, the celebrated rebel, in the reign of Henry VI. though generally thought to have been taken by Alexander Iden,

esq. the sheriff, in a close belonging to Ripple manor, was discovered in a field in this parish, still called *Jack Cade's field*, now open with the rest of the grounds adjoining to Hothfield place.

The Manor of Hothfield appears in very early times to have had the same owners as the barony of Chilham, and continued so till the descendants of Fulbert de Dover became extinct. Bartholomew de Badlesmere had a grant of this manor, as also of Chilham, in fee, under Edward II. He likewise held this manor of Hothfield by *grand sergeantry*, at the enthroning of Archbishop Walter Reynolds. It then passed to Thomas Lord Roos, who having been attainted under Edward IV. his lands were confiscated to the crown; however, Margaret, his mother, possessing a life interest, she carried it in marriage to Roger Wentworth, esq. whom she survived, and died possessed of this property in the above reign; and, in consequence of the attaint, it then went to the crown. The king, immediately after, granted this estate to Sir John Fogge, of Repton, who, on the accession of Richard III. took refuge in the abbey of Westminster, whence he was invited by the king, who assured him of his affection and friendship. He died possessed of this estate in the reign of Henry VII. when Henry VIII. granted it to John Tufton, esq. of Northiam, in Sussex, who died in 1567, leaving one son, residing at Hothfield place. He married a daughter of Christopher Blower, esq. by whom he had three daughters; and secondly to Christian, daughter and heir of Sir Humphry Brown, by whom he had several sons and daughters. Nicholas, the eldest, succeeded him, and was, by letters patent, created Lord Tufton, in the reign of Charles I. and under the same monarch was made earl of Thanet, in this county. John, his successor, married, in 1629, Margaret, daughter of Richard earl of Dorset, and left six sons, and as many daughters, being succeeded by Nicholas, his eldest son, third earl of Thanet.

By the death of his mother and grandmother, in 1676, he became heir to the baronies of Clifford, Westmoreland, and Vescy, when he was succeeded by his brother John, who died unmarried, as also his brother Richard, upon which the titles devolved to Thomas, sixth earl of Thanet, and Lord Clifford. He left five daughters, the eldest of whom married Viscount Sondes, son of the earl of Rockingham, who died at Hothfield, in 1729, without male issue,

when the titles descended to his nephew, Sackville Tufton, eldest son of his brother, Sackville, fifth son of John, second earl of Thanet. Thomas died in 1721, whose eldest son of the same name, succeeded him as eighth earl, when he rebuilt the mansion of Hothfield, and dying at Nice, in 1786, was conveyed to England, and lies buried in the family vault at Rainham, in this county. He left five sons and two daughters, when, of the former, Sackville succeeded him, born in 1769; after which this title descended to the Right. Hon. Sackville Tufton, earl of Thanet.

Swinfort, or *Swinford*, is a manor in this parish, lying in the southern part, near the river Stour, and had formerly possessors who thence derived their name. We cannot discover at what period they became extinct, but, under Henry V. this estate was in the possession of the Bridge's, descended from John atte Bregg, one of those eminent persons whose effigies are represented kneeling, habited in armour, in the painted window in *Great Chart* church. In that family the manor of Swinford continued till the latter end of the reign of James I. when it passed by sale to Sir Nicholas Tufton, afterwards earl of Thanet; whose son, John, exchanged it for other lands with Nicholas Toke, of Godinton; in which family and name it continued down to Nicholas Roundell Toke, esq. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Fausley, or *Fousley*, as it is called, is the last manor in this parish. The more ancient name was *Foughleslee*, or, as it was generally pronounced, *Faulesley*, which name it gave to owners, who, in early times, resided here. John de Foughleslee, of Hothfield, possessed this manor under Richard II.; in which line it continued till the reign of Elizabeth, when it passed by sale to the Drury's; from whom it was conveyed to one Paris, and he immediately alienated the same to the Bull's. In the reign of James I. we find it in the possession of the earls of Thanet, in which family it continued down to the Right Hon. Sackville, earl of Thanet.

Hothfield is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Charing. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is small, and consists of three aisles and one chancel. On the north side is a monument of curious workmanship, having the figures of a man and woman,

lying at full length; at three of the corners are those of two sons and one daughter, kneeling and weeping, all in white marble; and round the edges is an inscription in memory of Sir John Tufton, bart. and Olympia, his wife. On the monument are the arms of the Tufton's, with quarterings and impalements, the whole being parted from the north aisle by a balustrade seven feet high. The vault beneath is usually overflowed by water, wherefore the few coffins that remained were removed to the family vault at Rainham.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at £17 5, the yearly tenths being £1 14 6. In 1588 there were 993 communicants; and in 1640, 190, when it was valued at only £60. This church was burnt down in the reign of King James I., and rebuilt at the sole expense of Sir John Tufton, bart. who died in 1624. His descendant, Thomas, in 1729, gave the present altarpiece, together with some of the pews and the pulpit.

In 1821 there were seventy-four dwellings in the parish of Hothfield; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 220, females 218, making a total of 438 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF WYE

Lies next southward to that of Felborough, and contains within its bounds the parishes of Wye, Crundal, Brooke, Boughton Aluph, and Eastwell, with the churches of those parishes; also part of the parishes of Braborne, Challock, Waltham, and Westwell, the churches of the latter being in other hundreds. Two constables have jurisdiction over this district. That part of Waltham within this hundred includes the *Manor of Eshmerfield*, and that portion which lies in *Westwell* contains the *Manors of Dean and Beamonston*.

Wye lies the next parish eastward from Challock, in Domesday and other old records being spelt Wy. The parish is healthy and dry, being partly in the fertile vale of *Ashford*. The fine pasture down hills of *Wye* and *Braborne* bound the eastern side, as does another range of hills in an opposite direction, the summits of which are skirted by a considerable extent of woodland, called King's and Challock woods, over which, for two miles, this parish reaches westward, almost to the church and village of Molash. The town of Wye, in which the fine tower of the church is a conspicuous object, stands in the vale on the river Stour, that stream running through this parish in its way to Canterbury. Over the same is a stone bridge of five arches, built in 1630; the river abounding with pike. The town is well built, and consists of two parallel streets, two others crossing them, there being a large green, on one side of which is the church and college, and on the other a house, once the jail to the manor court.

There is a tradition, that the town formerly stood in the valley between *Wye down* and Crundal, which the hamlet of Pett Street now occupies, and where there still remains some deep wells. The latter place is called Town borough, whereas, that in which *Wye* town stands is named Bewbridge borough. About

half a mile westward from the town is a pleasant seat called *Spring Grove,* built by Thomas Brett, esq. of this parish, in 1674; one of which family was a learned divine, who died in 1743, leaving twelve children, who was succeeded by his eldest son, Thomas, in the manor of Spring Grove.

The southern part of this parish is full of small enclosures, wherein is a hamlet called *Withersden,* formerly accounted a manor. There is a well in this part, once very famous, being called St. Eustace's well, having derived its name from Eustachius, abbot of Flai, mentioned by Matthew Paris as having been a man of great learning and sanctity, who preached here and blessed this fountain, whereby its waters possessed the miraculous power of healing all diseases. Nearly half this parish belonged to Mr. Sawbridge, his estate being increased by his father purchasing those of Bond Hopkins, esq. which consists of *Wye Court, Harvile, Coldharbour, Wye downs, and Nacolt,* in this parish. They are supposed formerly to have belonged to Wye college, and afterwards to the Kempe's; and were bought in Chancery by John Hopkins, esq. commonly called, from his rapacity, Vulture Hopkins. He died immensely rich in 1732, and devised these estates not to be inherited till after the second generation, then unborn; but the Court of Chancery set the will aside, and gave his estates to his heir-at-law, from whom they descended to Bond Hopkins, esq.

In the northern part stands the stately mansion of Ollantigh, close to the river, which is beautifully formed by art to ornament the same. Adjoining are the park and grounds, comprising 600 acres, extending nearly to Wye town, and the ridge of hills called Wye downs, a chain stretching to the sea-shore at Folkstone. On the summit of the hill, at the eastern boundary of this parish, is Fanscomb beech, a tree visible to all the surrounding district, near which was formerly a cottage of the same name; and adjoining is Fannes wood, both in ancient times esteemed manors of some account.

The Manor of Fannes, or *Fauscombe,* once belonged to the master of the Savoy, but now to St. Thomas's hospital, Southwark; and that of *Fannes wood,* the property of the Kempe's, was afterwards held by the Sawbridges's.

The high road from Canterbury to Ashford runs through this parish, half a mile west from Ollantigh, on more elevated ground,

whence is a magnificent view over the vale beneath, and the opposite downs, including the mansion and grounds of Ollantigh, with the town and church of Wye.

Some writers have conjectured that the Romans had a highway through this district, conducting to Lenham and Aylesford, a supposition that is strengthened from the several remains dug up in the vicinity. A market was formerly held at Wye, on Thursdays, granted to the abbot of Battle, which existed under Henry VIII.; and Leland calls it *a pratie market townelet;* it is now disused. The two fairs, formerly held on St. Gregory's and All Souls' days, 23d March, and 2d of November, are now kept on the 29th of May and 3d of September, for Welch cattle, stock, &c.

Several good families were once residents of this town and parish; among whom were the Finch's, of Wye Court; the Swan's, from Lyd; the Twisden's, and the Haule's, anciently written *De Aula sive Haule.*

In this parish Major George Somner, brother of the antiquary of that name, was killed, in 1648, being engaged in a skirmish with the rebels.

On the precise spot where the memorable battle between Harold and the Norman despot was fought, in 1066, the Conqueror, in the ensuing year, began to erect the famous abbey named from that event, *Battle Abbey*, in Latin records *Abbatia de Bello,* the same being endowed with singular exemptions and privileges by the founder, among which was the ROYAL MANOR OF WYE, *with all its appendages.* As a mark of royal favor, Edward II. after the burial of his father, held the solemnity of a whole Christmas at the manor house of Wye, which was resorted to by many persons of note, and among others, John de Langeton, chancellor, who landing from Rome, under Edward I. delivered to that prince his seal, in his chamber at Wye; and Henry VI. in his 7th year, and Humphry duke of Gloucester, in the 8th and 9th years of the latter reign, were also at this place. The manor so remained until the suppression, when it continued vested in the crown and was then granted, with the rectory and advowson, by Edward VI. to Edward lord Clinton and Saye. He retained them but a few months, reconveying them to the king; in which state the manor continued till the 1st of Elizabeth, who granted the estate, by the title of her Royal Manor of

Wye, &c. with other lands formerly belonging to the abbey of Guisnes, in Flanders, to her kinsman, Henry Carey, lord Hunsdon, to hold *in capite*. His grandson, Henry earl of Dover, after the year 1628, alienated the same to Sir Thomas Finch, of Eastwell, in which line these estates continued. A court-leet and court-baron are regularly held for this manor.

Every Monday three weeks used formerly to assemble here a court of record for deciding all actions, long since disused. The liberty of the royal manor of Wye extends over the boroughs of Henwood, otherwise Hewit, in Ashford; of Snodehill, in Bethersden; and of Wachinden, in Biddenden; over all Boughton Aluph; the borough of Cocklescombe, in Braborne; the whole of Brooke; a portion of the churchyard; the fair-place; and such part of Challock as is not in the manor of Godmersham; part of Chilham; the borough of Frisley, or Abbot's Franchise, in Cranbrooke; all Crundall and Eastwell; part of Godmersham; the denne of Romedenne, in Halden; the boroughs of the town of Hastingleigh; of Hawkhurst, otherwise Southborough, in Hawkhurst; part of West Hythe; all Kingsnoth; the borough of Dengeworth, in Lyd; part of Mersham and Molash; the borough of West Kingsnoth, in Pluckley; part of Rucking; the yoke of Develand, being all Sevington; the denne of Crepredge, in Tenterden; the borough of Towne, in Waltham; part of Warehorne; the borough of Shottenden and Deane, in Westwell; the borough of Henwood, in Wilsborough; the denne of Plurenden, in Woodchurch; and all Wye.

Ollantigh, the noble mansion of which stands near the Stour, was, under Edward I. possessed by the Kempe's; in which famous line it remained until 1607, when the property was divided among four female heirs, who soon after conveyed the same to Sir Timothy Thornhill, who resided here. In his posterity the estate descended until the 4th of Queen Anne, when Major Richard Thornhill obtained an Act for vesting this and other estates in trustees, to be sold for the payment of his debts, when they were disposed of to Jacob Sawbridge, esq. in which line this property continued.

Hinksell is a manor situated in the hamlet of *Billing*, and lies on the road from Canterbury to Ashford, partly in this parish, and a portion in that of Godmersham; but the site, called Deal Place, is in that of Wye. It once belonged to the

Bilting's; then to the Franklyn's; when it passed by sale to the Carkeridge's, of Maidstone. In 1640 it went by will to the Cooper's, who alienated this estate to the Farnaby's; by whom it was sold to the Filmer's, in which line it continued.

The manor of Aldons, now called Perry Court, is a mile and a half from Bilting, on the Ashford road, and derived its name from the Aldon family. We next find it, under Richard II. vested in the Belknap's, but how long it remained in that name does not appear; it then passed to the Pyrie's, afterwards written Perry, a name of great note in this county, from which the mansion acquired the name of *Perry Court*, which it still retains. Of the latter family, under Henry VI. this manor was purchased by Cardinal Kempe, who settled it on his college of Wye; where it continued until the dissolution, when it was granted by Henry VIII. to Walter Bucler, esq. secretary of Queen Catherine; who, in the same year, alienated this property to the Dennis's. It then passed by sale to William Damsell, esq.; and next, by the marriage of a female heir, to the Burston's; a descendant of whom, under James I. alienated this property to the Moyle's, of Buckwell, who sold it to Thomas Finch, earl of Winchelsea; a descendant of whom, in 1769, devised it to his nephew, George Finch Hatton, esq. of Eastwell.

Raymonds is a manor situated about a mile southward from Wye bridge, which was not only the seat, but gave the surname to a family who served the office of stewards to the abbot of Battle for their lands near this place. This family became extinct under Henry VIII. at which period it was held by Roger Kingesland, of the manor of Perie. It then passed to the Back's; and afterwards to the Fenner's, of Ashford; and subsequently went, by marriage of a female heir, to the Smith's, of Faversham; and again in like manner to the Mawhood's, who alienated it to the Carter's, of Kennington, in which name it continued.

There was *a manor* in this parish called Germans, formerly held by a family of that name, whence it passed to the Hawker's, of Challock, and then to the Dryland's. The above was also called *the Manor of Snatts*, otherwise *Germans;* and it appears, that about the time of Edward IV. near the boundaries of this parish, towards Crundall, there existed another manor called *the Manor of Dyton.*

Cardinal Archbishop John Kempe, above mentioned,

founded and endowed THE COLLEGE OF WYE, for the celebration of divine service, and educating the youth of this district, in the 10th of Henry VI. In 1447, being the 26th of the same reign, he converted the parish-church of Wye into *a college*, establishing therein chaplains and priests, one of whom bore the title of master or provost of the college of St. Gregory and St. Martin.* This establishment so continued until the dissolution, when it was surrendered, with all its possessions, to Henry VIII. at which period the revenues were estimated at £93 2 0½ per annum.

By the above monarch it was shortly after granted to Walter Bucler, esq. before mentioned, to hold the same *in capite* by knight's service. He then alienated this property to the Dennis's, who passed the same by sale to the Damsell's. Under Queen Elizabeth it went to four female heirs, but how it subsequently passed does not appear, until the close of the 17th century, when it was held by George Wheler, prebendary of Durham, who, by will, devised the site and buildings of the college of Wye to the master of the grammar school, and the master and mistress of Lady Joanna Thornhill's charity school, and their successors, for ever, for their residences, with lands and tenements adjoining, to the yearly value of £14 per annum, for keeping the same in repair.

Lady Joanna Thornhill, of Ollantigh, by her will, in 1708, gave a portion of her estate to be applied to the use and benefit of the poorest children of the town of Wye, for their improvement and learning. The executors therefore purchased a farm in Wye and in Romney marsh of £97 a year, out of which a school master and mistress are paid, who instruct the poor *gratis*.

WYE is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Bridge. The church, dedicated to Sts. Gregory and Martin, stands at the north-west corner of the town, and was erected by Cardinal Kempe, when he founded his college under Henry VI. It was a large handsome structure, containing three aisles and as many chancels, having a high spire steeple in the centre, which stood on four lofty arches, supported by the same number of large pillars. The grand chancel was formed choir fashion, being wainscotted

* See vol. I. p. 318.

with seats round the same for the members of the new college. The north chancel served as the burial place of the Kempe's, owners of Ollantigh; and in the south chancel, the better class of parishioners were interred. According to tradition, it stood on a hill at the entrance into the town from the river, now called Boltshill, but was removed to its present site by the cardinal. In 1572 the steeple was destroyed by lightning, and although soon after rebuilt, it fell, in 1635, demolishing the greater part of the middle chancel, with the side ones, and the east end of the body of the church, whereby all the tombs of the Kempe's and Thornhill's were destroyed, whereof nothing now remains. The structure then continued in a dilapidated state till 1701, when a brief was procured for its re-erection; upon which the remains of the old chancels were taken down, and only the existing small one built at the east extremity, in the place of that where the choir had existed, and a tower steeple to the south, between the chancel and body of the church, with battlements and four pinnacles, having gilt vanes thereon. The present edifice is small, but very neat, consisting of three aisles, the centre one being furnished with an upper story and range of windows. There is only one small circular chancel, at the east end. Three memorials exist, in the body of the church, to the Brett's, the Andrew's, and the Palmer's; in the chancel is a tomb for Mrs. Catherine Matchem, and another, over a vault, to Agnes and Mary Johnson; together with a monument to Lady Joanna Thornhill.

This church, appurtenant to the manor of Wye, was given with it to the abbey of Battle by the Conqueror, and appropriated before the year 1384. In that state it remained till the time of Henry VI. when Cardinal Kempe obtained license to purchase the advowson of the vicarage of the abbot of Battle, which he settled upon his college, the rectory of Wye, however, remaining vested in the abbey. After the dissolution, it continued with the crown till granted by Edward VI. to Lord Clinton and Saye, who, one month after, reconveyed the same to that prince. It so remained until Elizabeth, by letters patent, granted this property to Archbishop Parker, in exchange, in whose successors it has continued. In 1684 the parsonage was assessed at £105 yearly rental.

THE MANOR OF THE VICARAGE OF WYE only continued

vested in the crown till the 1st of Elizabeth, who granted it, with the royal manor of Wye, to Henry lord Hunsdon, whose grandson, Henry earl of Dover, alienated the same to the Finch's, of Eastwell; when, in 1769, it devolved to Finch Hatton, esq. of the above place.

The curacy is now of the yearly value of £50 10 3; and in 1578 the communicants ammounted to 557.

In 1821, there were 269 dwellings in the parish of Wye; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 750, females 758, making a total of 1508 souls.

Crundal is the next parish north-eastward from Wye, and, from the register of Leeds abbey, appears to have been once called *Dromwœd*, which Hasted conjectures to have been the same as now bears the name of Tremworth; in which register it is also stated, that *Dromwœd* and *Crundale* are one and the same parish; *Dromewida* and *Crundale sunt una* and *eadem villa;* while in another place mention is made *de Ecclesia de Dromwœd.* This parish, by no means extensive, is very retired, and has little or no traffic through it. It is hilly and barren, the soil, generally speaking, consists of chalk covered by quantities of flints. The country, however, is very salubrious, and extremely cold, having a wild and desolate appearance, a great portion consisting of open downs, mostly uncultivated, those to the east lying on the lofty ridge of hills adjoining Wye downs. In the centre of this district there is some coppice wood, and still more at the north-eastern boundaries.

Two small streets or hamlets exist here, one in the valley called Danord, corruptly Danewood Street; the other, eastward, on the hills, denominated Sole Street, being the principal one, where is held a fair, every Whit Monday, for toys and pedlary. Close at the end of the former, in the valley, stands the parsonage, a genteel mansion; and upon the hill, distant three quarters of a mile, is the church. About the middle westward, over the hill, is Little Ollantigh, situated upon the downs called Tremworth, from the manor of that name, the house of which stands on the western bounds of this parish, very near the Stour. The ancient mansion was moated round, and fragments of the armorial bearings of the Kempe's still remain in the windows, as well as

the carved work of the wainscottings and timbers of the building. There was formerly a domestic chapel, some of the walls of which are still remaining.

On Tremworth Down, near the summit of the hill, three quarters of a mile from Crundal, is a hollow road, on either side of which many *Roman tumuli* have been discovered, containing urns, ossuaries, pateræ, and lacrymatories, of Roman earthenware, and glass of various dimensions and colours.

The Royal Manor of Wye claims *paramount* over this parish; *subordinate* to which are the Manors of Crundal and Hadloe, which, with the rest of this district, were parcel of the honour of Clare, belonging to the family so called, earls of Gloucester, of whom they were held by the family of Handlow, or Hadloe, whose seat here bore their name. John so called possessed these manors under Henry III. which continued in that line until the reign of Edward III. when they passed by sale to Waretius de Valoins. He dying without male issue, these manors went, by the marriage of one of his daughters, to the Aldon's; and again, in like manner, to the Heron's, of Lincolnshire. They were next sold to the Kempe's, of Ollantigh, when a female descendant marrying Sir Dudley Diggs, he, in her right, became possessed of those estates, which he afterwards alienated to Jeremy Gay, of London. From that family they passed to the Whitfield's, of Canterbury; who, under George II. alienated them to Humphry Pudner, of the above city, whose daughter carried the same in marriage to Thomas Barrett, esq. of Lee, in Ickham. His widow surviving, they then went to her only son, Thomas, who shortly after exchanged them for Garwinton, in Littleborne, with Thomas Knight, esq. of Godmersham. His son, dying in 1794, gave them, with *Little Winch Courte*, in this parish, to Edward Austen, esq. of Rowling place, in which line they continued.

Crundal house stands south-eastward from Danord Street; the site of Hadloe manor being at a small distance farther southward. The house has long been pulled down, but there was a building, called Hadloe barn, standing till within these thirty years, which was then levelled with the ground.

Winchcombe is an estate in this parish, in very early times possessed by the Carter's, who resided here at the period of Edward II. It so continued for many generations till alienated

to Mr. Thomas Curteis, whose son, William, gave it to Juliana, his wife; when she remarrying William Fenton, esq. of Maidstone, and again, on his demise, William Harvey, of the same town, devised it to the latter, on whose decease, according to the tenor of her will, it went to Mr. Fenton, her second husband's nephew.

The Manor of Tremworth, anciently *Dromwœd* and *Dromwida*, was formerly of such note as to confer its name upon the whole parish.

The Manor of Vanne, or Vannes, was also of account under the Conqueror, and in Domesday record stands entered as part of the possessions of the bishop of Bayeux. On the disgrace of that prelate, the seignory of these manors was granted to the family of Clare, earls of Gloucester, of whom they were again held by the Valoigns's family. Ruallon of that name held them at the close of King Stephen's reign; as did his descendant, Allan, under that of Henry II. They then passed to the Handloe's, who held the same in the reign of Edward II., John so called having had a grant of *free warren* for his lands in Tremworth, Vanne, and Crundal. The whole then passed, by the marriage of a female heir, to Edmund de la Pole, being held *in capite*. We next find these manors vested in the crown, as in the 43d of Edward III. Ingelran de Ghisnes, lord of Couci, afterwards earl of Bedford and count of Soissons, who had espoused that monarch's daughter, Isabel, obtained a grant of the manors of Vanne and Tremworth. He dying without male heirs, Mary, one daughter, espoused Henry de Barre, and Phillippa, Robert de Vere, duke of Ireland, when these manors, with the advowson of Crundal, reverted, according to the limitation in the grant, to the crown, whence they were immediately after granted to Henry Yevele for his life; and soon after the reversion of them went to the master and chaplains of the college of Maydenstone, then recently founded by Archbishop Courtenay, in perpetual alms, which was confirmed by Henry IV. They so continued till the suppression, when Edward VI. in 1546, granted the manors of Tremworth, Faynes, &c. to Sir Thomas Cheney, whose son, Lord Cheney, at the commencement of Elizabeth's reign, alienated them to the Kempe's, of Ollantigh, whose son dying in 1607, without male issue, devised Tremworth manor and the advowson of Crundal church to Reginald, his brother, who

resided here. On the division of this estate between his three daughters, this manor, &c. fell to Maurice Tuke, in right of his wife; and they leaving an only daughter, Dorothy, she carried this property to Sir Robert Filmer, bart. of East Sutton, in which line it continued. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Cakes Yoke is a manor adjoining the parish of Wye, the site of which was within that parish, though it has long paid to the church and paupers of Crundal. This manor, from tradition, was in the name of the Chapman's for a length of time, and so remained till William of that family, leaving a daughter, named Margaret, she entitled William Laming, esq. of Wye, to the same by marriage, in the descendants of which gentleman it continued.

Crundal is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Bridge. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, stands upon elevated ground, and consists of an aisle and chancel, with a tower steeple, and a low pointed turret at the top. There is a vault here for the interment of the Sawbridge's; and in the chancel, the figure of John Sprot, once rector of this living. A memorial existed in this church for Judith Cerclere Misson, who fled from France on account of her religion, and after encountering many dangers, arrived safe in London in 1685; she died A.D. 1692. In the churchyard there are also tombs to the Foster's and Harvey's.

The rectory of Crundal was given by the family of Valoigns's in the reign of Henry II. by the name of the church of Dromwide, to the priory and convent of Leeds, in perpetual alms. This, however, never took place, as the heirs of the donor refused to ratify the gift; when, after much controversy, it was agreed, at the instance of Archbishop Hubert, that Hamo de Valoigns should grant a rent of 25s. from his church of Dromwœd to the prior and canons for ever; saving to him and his heirs the presentation to the church; all of which stipulations the archbishop confirmed. This church afterwards remained in the patronage of the lords of Tremworth manor, in which it continued till possessed by Sir John Filmer, bart. who by will, in 1796, bequeathed it, with that manor, to his brother, Sir Beversham Filmer, bart. The above-mentioned pension of 25s., on the suppression of the priory of Leeds, fell into the hands of Henry VIII. who settled it on his new founded dean and chapter

of Rochester. This rectory was valued in the king's books at £11 10, the yearly tenths at £1 3 1. In 1588 it was estimated at £80, the communicants being 191. In 1640 the value was only £60, communicants 100.

In 1821, there were twenty-nine dwellings in the parish of Crundal; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 123, females 127, making a total of 250 souls.

Brooke is the next parish southward from Wye, written in ancient records both *Broc* and *Broke*, and derived the name from its low situation on the stream, which runs through it, *broca*, in Saxon, signifying a rivulet. It appears to have been once accounted a hundred of itself; but at the survey of Domesday in 1080, it was found to be in the hundred of *Wye*. The parish is very small, and but little known, situated far from all traffic and thoroughfare, being about a mile across either way. The village is in the centre of the parish, the church standing at the north end. There is a small hamlet, called Little Bedleston, consisting of only two houses, in the eastern ridge of hills, called Braborne downs, to the foot of which this parish extends eastward.

Brooke was given, long previous to the Conquest, by one Karlemann, a priest, to the church of Canterbury; from which it was taken, in the Danish wars, and continued in lay hands at the accession of the Conqueror. Soon after it appears to have been in the possession of Hugo de Montfort; from whom Archbishop Lanfranc again recovered it for his church, in the solemn assembly of the whole county, held on that occasion at Pinenden heath, in 1076, among whose possessions it was entered in Domesday; when this manor was soon after let to farm by the monks to Robert de Rumene. In the reign of Henry III. it was valued at £22 1 10, and in that state it continued till the dissolution of the priory of Christ church, under Henry VIII. who settled it on his newly erected dean and chapter of Canterbury, in whom it is continued.

Brooke is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Bridge. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is small, consisting of one aisle and a

chancel, with a low square tower at the west end. The church of Brooke has always been considered an appendage to the manor, and as such passed from the priory of Christ church into the hands of the crown. The rectory was valued in the king's books at £7 7 3, being of the clear certified value of £30. In 1588 it was the same, the communicants being ninety-two; and in 1640 the estimate was £60, communicants sixty. In 1724 it was augmented by the sum of £200, given by the governors of Queen Anne's bounty.

In 1821, there were twenty-four dwellings in the parish of Brooke; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 77, females 85, making a total of 162 souls.

Boughton Aluph lies to the west of Wye, frequently spelt *Bocton*, and written in Domesday *Boltune*, and bears the addition of *Aluph*, from one of its ancient owners, named Alulphus de Bocton. It contains *four boroughs*, namely, Goatlands, Wilmington, Dane, and Hebbinge. This parish lies about twelve miles distant both from Canterbury and Faversham, and four from *Ashford*. Close on the east side of the road to Canterbury is *Buckwell house*, the major part of which has for some years been pulled down, although sufficient remains to prove it once having been a place of considerable note; adjoining which is the church and court lodge. Above, farther westward, is some rough open ground called the *Warren*, extending beyond the high Faversham road, the enclosure in Eastwell park, which joins it, being within this parish. Above Socombe, is a parcel of woodland, comprising 100 acres, formerly part of Barton manor, which was sold by Mr. Breton previous to his disposal of the above manor to Sir Robert Furnese, bart. by whose daughter it went in marriage to the Earl of Guildford. Near the pales of Eastwell park, at a small distance from that mansion, the road descends below the hill to flat ground, where stands the village, situated round a green called Boughton Lees, the west side only of which is in this parish.

At the southern boundary, on the Ashford road, is the borough and hamlet of Wilmington, the ancient mansion of which skirted the road, but has long since been pulled down. It stood within

a moat, still entire, its area containing half an acre of ground, many old foundations having since been dug up on its site. A fair is held on the Lees upon Midsummer-day, for toys and pedlary. In the time of the *Saxons*, this place was in the possession of *Earl Godwin*, whose eldest son Harold, king of England, succeeded to the same; and, upon his death, William the Conqueror seized this, with all the other estates of the king, and gave Boughton to Eustace, earl of Boulogne, who possessed it at the survey of Domesday, under the title of whose lands it is therein entered. Of the earl of Boulogne this manor was held by a family which derived its name from this estate. Alulphus de Boughton held it in the reign of King John, and Stephen de Bocton died possessed of it under Edward I. holding it *in capite*, together with Hethenden, in this county, and Orset, in Essex. Soon after, we find it in the family of Burghersh, when Robert, constable of Dover castle, died here in the above reign. It continued in that name till the reign of Edward III. when one of the descendants passed it by sale to Sir Walter de Pavely, who spelt his name both Pavely, and Pavalli. It then descended by entail to Thomas de Aldon, who alienated this manor to Sir Thomas Trivet, whose widow was succeeded by Elizabeth, wife of Edward Nevill, Lord Bergavenny, fourth son of Ralph, earl of Westmoreland. He possessed it in right of his wife as above, and after her death, remarrying Catherine, daughter of Sir Robert Howard, he died in the reign of Edward IV. His eldest son, Sir George Nevill, Lord Bergavenny, appears to have sold this manor to Sir Thomas Kempe, of Ollantigh, whose youngest son, Thomas, bishop of London, died possessed of it under Henry VII. leaving his nephew, Sir Thomas Kempe, his next heir. His descendant, Sir Thomas, of Ollantigh, in the reign of Elizabeth, alienated the same to Finch Hatton, esq. of Eastwell, in whose successors, earls of Winchelsea, it came down to Daniel, earl of the same name, who in 1769 devised it to George Finch Hatton, esq. of Eastwell park.

Seaton is a small manor in this parish, formerly held by knight's service, in grand sergeantry, to provide one man, called a *Vautrer*, to lead three greyhounds when the king should go into Gascony, until he had worn out a pair of shoes of the price of four pence, bought at the king's cost. By that service, John de Criol, youngest son of Bertram, held it under Henry III.

whose granddaughter became heir to her brother's inheritance. She carried this manor in marriage to Sir Richard Rokesle, who held it by like tenure under Edward II. when his eldest daughter marrying Thomas de Poynings, she entitled him to its possession. In his descendants it continued down to Lord Percy, son of the Duke of Northumberland, in whose line it remained till Henry, earl of Northumberland, conveyed it to feoffees, who soon after passed it by sale to Sir Christopher Hales, knight. He died possessed of this estate under Henry VIII. and left three daughters, who joined in the sale of the property to Sir Thomas Moyle, of Eastwell, whose daughter carried it in marriage to Sir Thomas Finch, of Eastwell. It then passed to the earls of Winchelsea, and in 1769 came into the possession of George Finch Hatton, esq. of Eastwell.

Barton is a manor in this district, the mansion of which stood on the west side of the Ashford road, in the borough of Socombe, almost opposite to Buckwell, which was pulled down some years back, part only of the site containing a barn now remaining. It was once a portion of the possessions of the family of Leyborne, of Leyborne, one of whom died possessed of it under Henry III. In that name it continued till Juliana Leyborne, infanta of Kent, died, when this manor, with all her other estates, became escheated to the crown under Edward III. and so remained till Richard II. vested this property in feoffees, in trust, towards the endowment of St. Stephen's chapel, at Westminster. It so continued till the time of Edward VI. when it was surrendered to that prince, who soon after granted it to Sir Thomas Moyle, of Eastwell. In his descendants, resident at Buckwell, this manor remained till Mary, daughter of John, carried it in marriage to Robert Breton, esq. of the Elmes, near Dover. He died possessed of it in 1708, and about 1730 this estate was sold to Thomas May, of Godmersham, whose son, Thomas, dying in 1794, gave it by will to his widow, who resigned it to Edward Austen, of Godmersham park.

Buckwell, once called a manor, is situated at a small distance from *Barton*, though on the opposite side of the road. It was, in the reign of the Conqueror, part of those estates given to William Arsick, and of him and his heirs the property was again held by the family of Leyborne, Roger of that name dying possessed of it under Henry III. The *manor* and *mansion* of

Buckwell subsequently appears to have been *divided*, and in the possession of different owners. The manor then passed to Robert de Burghersh, one of whose descendants conveyed it to Sir Walter de Pavely, under Edward III. who passed it to Sir Robert Belknap. He being attainted and banished, it remained in the crown till that king vested it in feoffees towards the endowment of St. Stephen's chapel, where it continued till the suppression of that college, under Edward VI. who granted it to Sir John Moyle.

The mansion of Buckwell, before the reign of Edward I. had been, as before mentioned, *separated* from the manor, when we find it under Edward III. possessed by William de la Hay. He died holding it, when it became vested in the family of the Bekewell's, who thence derived their name. On this family becoming extinct, the estate passed to the Wodes, and so remained till the time of Henry VI. when Robert Wode conveyed it by sale to Walter Moyle, ancestor of John of this place. In his descendants it continued down to Mary, daughter of John, who then carried it in marriage to Robert Breton, esq. when it subsequently devolved to Edward Austen, esq. of Godmersham.

Wilmington, anciently called *Wilmingdon*, lies at the southern part of this parish, on the Ashford road. It gives name to the borough in which it stands, as also to the hamlet of houses around it. Robert de Wilmington held this manor in the reign of Henry III. by the service of grand sergeantry of the earls Cook, it being then valued at two marks. His descendant, Bertram de Wilmington, died possessed of it under Edward II. when it was served *in capite* by the service of finding for the king one pot-hook for his meat, whensoever he should come within the manor of Boughton Aluph. His descendant dying under Henry V. it passed to the Duke of Norfolk, who possessed it in the reign of Edward IV. On his death, the great inheritance of the Mowbray's went to the heirs of his two sisters, when, upon its division, John lord Howard, in right of his mother, Margaret, the eldest of them became entitled to this manor. Upon the attainder of his estates, after being killed at Bosworth, they were confiscated to the crown, upon which Henry VII. granted this manor to the Moyle's, in which line it remained till the time of Edward VI. By Catherine, heir of Sir Thomas, it then passed in marriage to Sir Thomas Finch,

who dying in 1563, she remarried Nicholas St. Leger, esq. of Beamstone, in Westwell, and entitled him to the same for her life. She dying in 1586, it returned to her son, Sir Moyle Finch, bart. in whose descendants, earls of Winchelsea, it was by Daniel, earl of Winchelsea, in 1769, demised to his nephew, George Finch Hatton, esq. of Eastwell.

ANOTHER PART of this estate, called LITTLE WILMINGTON, in the reign of Henry VI. was possessed by Richard Sandys, who alienated it to John Barough, who died possessed of it under Edward IV. It then remained in that family till sold to one Knott, who passed it to Dr. William Egerton, prebend of *Canterbury*, who died possessed of it in 1728, one of whose female heirs conveyed it in marriage to Edward Bridges, esq. of Wooton, upon a division of this estate between the sisters.

MARDAL MANOR is the last-mentioned place in this parish, lying on the south side. It anciently belonged to the Corbies', till the reign of Richard II. when Robert, leaving an only daughter, she carried it, with the rest of her inheritance, to Sir Nicholas Wotton. His descendant, under Elizabeth, passed it by sale to the Spratt's, from which name, under Charles I. it was alienated to Thomas Finch, earl of Winchelsea, who gave it by will to his nephew, George Finch Hatton, esq. of Eastwell.

BOUGHTON ALUPH is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Bridge. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is large and handsome, built of flint, with ashlar stone to the doors, windows, and quoins, and consists of three aisles, and two chancels. The steeple is a large low tower, standing on four pillars, in the centre of the edifice. In the great chancel is a monument to Thomas Austen, esq. obiit. 1637, and in the north chancel is another handsome tomb of marble to the memory of Amy, wife of Josias Clerk, gent. and daughter of John Moyle, esq. of Buckwell.

The church of Boughton Aluph was anciently an appendage to the manor, and so continued till the reign of Richard II. when Sir Walter Pavely dying possessed of the same, it was found that Sir Thomas de Aldon was his next heir. How long it continued in his line we know not, but under Henry VIII. the advowson became the property of Cardinal Kempe, archbishop of York, who settled it on his newly founded college of Wye. It so

Drawn by Geo. Shepherd.

EASTWELL PARK.

KENT.

remained till the suppression, when Henry VIII. granted it, among other premises, to Walter Bucler, esq. to hold *in capite*, who, not performing the conditions, it became forfeited, and under Charles I. was granted to Robert Maxwell. By the latter this rectory and advowson were sold to the Moyle's, of Buckwell, and by marriage subsequently passed to the Rev. Moyle Breton, of Kennington.

It was valued in the king's books at £6 5s. the yearly tenths being 12s. 6d. In 1752 the estimate was £58 6 10. In 1578 there were 154 communicants, and in 1640, 177. It was afterwards valued at £80 per annum.

In 1821 there were seventy-five dwellings in the parish of Boughton Aluph; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 248, females 205, making a total of 453 souls.

Eastwell is the last remaining parish in this hundred, anciently written *Est-welles* and *Estwelle*, sometimes only Welles, having derived its name from the springs with which it is watered, being called *Wells* by the Saxons, bearing the addition of *East*, from its situation, to distinguish it from the adjoining parish of Westwell.

The parish of Eastwell is very small, extending a mile across either way, and contains only a few houses. It is very healthy, and lies at the side of Ashford vale, at the base of the range of hills below Molash and Challock. The mansion of Eastwell place stands at a small distance from the south-east corner of the park, the pales of which join the Faversham road and Boughton Lees.

The Mansion of Eastwell stands south-west from the river Wye, the widely-extended park presenting a rich variety of beautiful and interesting scenery, consisting of woods, lawns, and rural dwellings.

The church, situated in the valley, at a short distance, presents a venerable and antique appearance; whence, by a gentle ascent, you approach the house, passing through the park, abundantly stocked with deer. In various divisions of the grounds, clumps majestically rise, interspersed by lofty forest trees of great bulk, and among them one venerable oak, of tow-

ering height and extraordinary circumference, supposed to be the largest in the county of Kent. The house is elegant and convenient, presenting a modern style of architecture, on the site of the former extensive building, erected by Sir Thomas Moyle.

At a short distance, in a retired situation, shaded by trees, is a plain building, apparently of considerable antiquity, said to occupy the very spot where the humble cottage formerly stood, erected by Richard Plantagenet, natural son of Richard III. and inhabited by that remarkable individual till his death, at a very advanced age, in December 1550, as appears from the parish register. Tradition points out the place of his interment, near a monument, in the wall of the church, but whether within or on the outside of the building is not known for a certainty; however, the truth of his history is not doubted. The battle of Bosworth field took place on the 22d of August, 1485, when, upon the defeat of Richard III. his son fled to London, and subsequently tendered his services as a bricklayer at Eastwell park, where he continued nearly sixty years. Near the cottage there was a fine spring of pure water, which is yet to be seen, retaining the name of Plantagenet's Well.

This rich and extensive demesne was anciently the property of the family of the Eastwells', which probably derived its name from this place. It then descended through a succession of great and dignified families, among which were those of Earl Percy, of Northumberland, Sir Christopher Hales, and one of the Colepepers, whence it passed to Sir Thomas Moyle, by whose daughter it was conveyed to the family in which it has since remained.

The noble race of the Finch's is descended from the chamberlain of Henry VII., of which illustrious house was Matthew Fitz-Herbert, one of the patriotic barons who procured the great charter of the liberties of Englishmen, signed by King John in the auspicious fields of Runnymead. Of the lineage of this Matthew, was Herbert Fitz-Herbert, who purchased the manor of the Finches, in Lydd, whereof, being sole lord, he thence assumed his surname; his son, in a *supersedeas*, being called by the name of Finch, which the family still retains.

The park, previously adverted to, occupying part of the valley, is higher than the vale beneath, presenting a beautiful prospect

southward, as far as the quarry hills, and contains about 1600 acres, esteemed by far the finest situation in this county. The soil is firm, and in parts extremely fertile, the venison fed there being the best in Kent. The north-west part is beautifully interspersed with wood, which, from an inequality of ground, presents a fine picturesque appearance. In this part of the park rises a very high hill, and upon its summit is an octagon plain, whence branch several avenues, or walks, called the Star walks, the intermediate spaces being filled with venerable trees, so thick as to render the light impervious.

The view from the top of the eminence in question is very extensive, commanding the course of the river Medway, as far as Sheerness, and the buoy of the Nore towards the German ocean. On the opposite side the British channel is conspicuous, towards France, beyond Romney Marsh, added to which, there is a very beautiful and extensive land prospect in every direction.

One side of the village, on Boughton Lees, is within this parish, at the eastern boundary. There is also another hamlet in an opposite part of the parish, called Linacre street, wherein stands a house called Linacre hall, once the property of Mr. Thomas Munn, of Ashford. There are three springs here, one of which rises at the bottom of the park, under Boughton Lees, and thence runs by Wilmington and Clipmill into the river Stour, under Frogbrooke, previous to which it is joined by another current, rising near the church. The third spring issues from the south corner of the park, and flows down by Kennington common and Burton, into the river near Willsborough Lees, being called Baconswater.

At the general survey of Domesday, Eastwell was part of the possessions of Hugo de Montfort, under the title of whose lands it is therein entered. This manor was afterwards held by a family that assumed its surname from this place, one of which, Matilda Estwelles, held it *in capite*, under Henry III. It then passed to the Criol's, when Bertram, son of John, died possessed of it in the time of Edward I. He left two sons, and a daughter, Joan, who married Sir Richard Rokesle. Both the sons died, when John, the eldest, left this estate to his wife, who carried it in marriage to her second husband, Edmund Gaselyn, for her life, on whose demise the manor reverted to Agnes and Joan, the two co-

heirs of the sister of her first husband, Sir Richard Rokesle. Upon the division of this inheritance, Eastwell was carried in marriage by Agnes, to Thomas de Poynings, in which line it continued till the reign of Henry VI. when Robert de Poynings left it to his granddaughter, wife of Henry, Lord Percy, son of the earl of Northumberland, who was summoned to parliament by the title of Lord Poynings, and afterwards earl of Northumberland. In the reign of Henry VIII. he passed it by sale to Sir Christopher Hales, who, leaving three daughters, they joined in the sale of this manor to Sir Thomas Moyle, of Eastwell, who rebuilt the mansion of Eastwell place, and died in 1560, leaving two daughters. Catherine married Thomas Finch, gent. and resided at Eastwell place; Philipott says the family of the Finch's was originally descended from Henry Fitz-Herbert, chamberlain to Henry. I. This alteration of the name to that of Finch, occurred about the time of Edward I. at which period, Herbert Fitz-Herbert purchased the manor of the Finch's, in Lyd, and assumed that name. Henry Herbert, otherwise Finch, died in the reign of Richard II. and left Vincent Herbert, or Finch, (with whom the pedigree of this family begins,) living in 1619. It remained in their descendants, who were allied to many noble families, down to John, who, in the reign of Charles I. was created Baron Fordwich, Lord Finch; and, surviving his mother, who had remarried Sir Anthony St. Leger, he became possessed of this manor and advowson. He espoused the only daughter of Sir Thomas Heniage, and obtained a licence to enclose his grounds, and embattle his house at Eastwell, when he died in 1614, leaving his widow, Lady Finch, surviving, who was, by letters patent, under James I. created Viscountess Maidstone, and in the reign of Charles I. Countess Winchelsea, in Sussex. She, dying in 1633, was succeeded by her eldest son, Sir Theophilus Finch, on whose demise, his brother Thomas succeeded him as Earl of Winchelsea. These estates and honours then continued, in a right line, down to Daniel, sixth earl of Winchelsea, who took an active part in politics, and was employed in great state affairs till 1716, when he retired from all public business, and died in 1730. The latter nobleman was twice married, first to Lady Essex Rich, second daughter of Robert, earl of Warwick, by whom he had one daughter; and, secondly, to Anne, only daughter of Christopher Viscount Hatton, by whom he had five

sons, and eight daughters, besides seventeen other children, who all died young; when his eldest son, Daniel, succeeded him in these titles and estates. He was actively employed, under George I. in the most important offices of the state, until the year 1766, when he retired from all public business, having been, in 1752, created a knight of the garter.

He was twice married, first to Frances, daughter of Basil Fielding, earl of Denbigh, by whom he had one daughter; and secondly, to Mary, daughter of Sir Thomas Palmer, bart. by whom he had four daughters. On his death, in 1769, without male issue, his titles, together with his estates in Rutlandshire, descended to his nephew, George, son of his brother William; but the manor and advowson of Eastwell he left, with his other Kentish property, to his nephew, George Finch Hatton, esq. eldest son of his youngest brother, Edward Finch Hatton. He married Elizabeth Mary, daughter of Lord Viscount Stormont, and resided at Eastwell park.

Pothery is a small manor within the bounds of this parish, and appears to have been part of that estate belonging to Odo, bishop of Bayeux, when, being confiscated to the crown, it was afterwards held by the family of the Criol's, in whose descendants it remained till it passed in marriage to the Rokesle's, and thence to the Percy's. It was sold by Henry, earl of Northumberland, in the reign of Henry VIII. to Sir Christopher Hales, whose heirs alienated it to Sir Thomas Moyle, whence it went in marriage to the Finch's, whose descendant Daniel, earl of Winchelsea, dying in 1769, without male issue, he gave it by will to his nephew, George Finch Hatton, esq. of Eastwell park.

Eastwell is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Charing. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, consists of two aisles, and as many chancels, having a square embattled tower at the west end, the whole built of flint and ashlar stone. The arms of the Poynings still remain in the east window of the high chancel, and within the altar rails is a memorial for Nicholas Toke, obiit 1670. On the south side of the chancel is the tomb of Sir Thomas Moyle, and a sumptuous monument whereon lie the figures of a man and woman, in white marble, at full length. This tomb, till within some years back, had a beautiful dome, supported by eight pillars of black marble, the fragments of which now lie scattered

about the chancel. It was erected to Sir Moyle Finch, knight, who died in 1631. At the upper end of the south aisle is a vault for the Finch family, wherein are thirty-eight coffins. The church of Eastwell was always considered an appendant to this manor, George Finch Hatton, esq. being lord and patron of the same.

It is valued in the king's books at £9 16 8, and is a discharged living estimated at £42. In 1588 the value was £40 per annum, communicants fifty-five, and in 1640 the same.

In 1821, there were sixteen dwellings in the parish of Eastwell, and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 62, females 72, making a total of 134 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF BIRCHOLT FRANCHISE

Lies eastward from that of Chart and Longbridge, and is so called as being within *the franchise or liberty of the Archbishop of Canterbury*, as well as to distinguish it from the hundred of Bircholt Barony. In Domesday it is entered under the several names of *Bilisold*, *Berisolt*, *Berisout*, and *Briseode*, and in a roll of the parishes within the kingdom, taken the 7th of Edward I. this hundred, as well as that of Bircholt Barony, are styled the two half-hundreds of Bircholt, the archbishop of Canterbury then ranking lord of the same, as being situated within his court of Aldington.

It contains within its boundaries the parish of Smeeth, *with part of those of* Aldington and Mersham, *the churches of which are in other hundreds*. One constable has jurisdiction over this district.

A Court Leet is held for this hundred, as appendant to Smeeth manor, alternately at the latter place and Stonehill.

Smeeth is the parish next to Mersham, eastward, anciently written, and usually called *Smede*, signifying an open plain. In 791 King Offa gave the pasture for fifty hogs *binnam Smede*, that is to say, *within Smede*, to the church of Canterbury. This parish is small, not extending more than a mile across either way; it lies for the most part on the hill, the country having a lonely appearance, as little traffic is carried on here.

The village of Smeeth stands, with its church, on the brow of the hill, commanding a fine view of the valley southward. There is another hamlet, called Ridgeway, in the vicinity, and in the direction of Mersham lees, a long narrow common, called Hatch heath. Near the foot of the hill, southward, is Scott's hall, standing some way down the eminence, being a large brick mansion; the front, eastward, modern, and that to the north, of the period of Henry VIII. producing a grand effect. It is very pleasantly situated, commanding a fine view, the grounds well wa-

tered by springs rising on the side of the hill. One mile westward, is Evegate; and near, a farm called *Stocks*, for many generations the property of the Loftie's, originally of Westwell. By a descendant of that family it was sold to the Dunk's, who resided here. The Stour, which rises at Postling, flows along the south side of this district, to Evegate mill, and then to Mersham, in its course towards Ashford. The grant of a market was procured by the primate Stratford, as well as a fair under Edward III. the former was never used, but fairs are still held here for toys and pedlary. This district contains two boroughs.

The manor of Aldington claims *paramount* over this parish, *subordinate* to which is THE MANOR OF EVEGATE, anciently written *Thevegate*, lying at the bottom of the hill, half a mile south of the church. In Domesday this manor is accounted as lying within the hundred of Longbridge, and then belonged to Hugo de Montfort. On the exile of his grandson, Robert, under Henry I. this property fell to the crown, after which it belonged to the Passeles, or Pashley's, and so continued until, by marriage of a female heir, it went to the Pimpes', of Nettlested. One of that family having an only daughter, she conveyed this estate to the Scott's, of Scott's hall, in which line it remained till 1784, when it was alienated to Sir John Honywood, bart. of Evington.

THE MANOR OF HALL, with its mansion, called SCOTT'S HALL, was, for a long series of descents, the estate and residence of the knightly family of the Scott's. The original name appears to have been Baliol, William, younger brother of Alexander, and brother of John Baliol, king of Scotland, having frequently written his name William de Baliol *le Scot*. It is therefore probable, that, after the contest between Edward I. and his brother John, for the sovereignty of that kingdom, William, on the overthrow of John Baliol, to avoid the anger of Edward, altered his name, retaining only that of Scot.

This eminent race, now spelt *Scott*, was originally established in the adjoining parish of Braborne, the church of which has continued their burial place. The first of this family of whom we have any account as being seated here was Sir William Scott, knight marshall of England, in 1350; here his descendants continued till the time of Henry VI. when one of the same name removed to Scott's hall. During six successive generations this

family produced men of eminence, who enjoyed posts of high trust, Sir William Scott, K.B. having been warden of the Cinque Ports, and lieutenant of Dover castle under Henry VII. and Henry VIII. He also new built the mansion, of which the north front remains, presenting, as previously remarked, a very noble façade. In this celebrated family the estate and mansion continued in an uninterrupted line of descent to Francis Talbot Scott, esq. whose trustees, in 1784, conveyed them, with the residue of his inheritance, to Sir John Honywood, bart. in which name they continued.

SMEETH is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Lymne. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is small, containing two aisles and two chancels, with a low steeple, shingled at the west end. The north chancel belongs to Scott's hall. In this edifice are many memorials to the Scott's and the Loftie's, and the great arch at the east end of the south aisle is a very choice specimen of Saxon architecture. There are also memorials of the Gokin's and the Dunk's.

This church is exempted from the jurisdiction of the archdeacon, and has uniformly been esteemed a chapel to the church of Aldington, the rector of which is presented to the above church, with the chapel of Smeeth annexed. In 1640 there were 180 communicants.

In 1821, there were fifty-four dwellings in the parish of Smeeth; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 200, females 193, making a total of 393 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF BIRCHOLT BARONY

Lies the next northward from that last mentioned, being called, in ancient records, *the neutral hundred of Bircholt Barony*, from its having been exempt from the jurisdiction of any lath whatsoever. It received the addition of *barony*, to distinguish it from the hundred within the archbishop's franchise, the name being variously spelt in Domesday, viz. *Berisolt, Berisout, Belice Briseode,* and *Bilissold.* This Hundred contains within its bounds the parishes of Bircholt, *and part of* Braborne *and* Hastinligh, *together with the churches of the above parishes.*

Bircholt is the next parish northward from Smeeth, being generally called *Birchall.* It lies between Braborne lees and Hatch park, being very small, containing but few houses and the court lodge. At the survey of Domesday it was held by Hugo de Montfort, under the general title of whose lands it is therein entered. Upon the exile of Robert, Henry I. took possession of these estates, and granted the same to the Criol's, when, under them, in the reign of Edward I. they were held by Philip de Columbers. In that name this property did not long remain, for, in the reign of Edward III. we find it in the possession of a family which took the name of Bircholt. This estate then appears to have been vested, under Henry IV., in Richard Halke, or Hawke, of West Halkes, in Kingsnoth; in whose descendants it continued till the reign of Elizabeth. William Halke, leaving an only daughter, she conveyed it in marriage to Hamon Handville, of Ulcombe; and about the year 1727 it passed to the Cale's, in which name it continued down to John Cale, of Barming. He died possessed of this estate in 1777, and demised it, with the rest of his property, to the heirs of Thomas Prowse, whose daughter, marrying Sir John Mordaunt, bart. of Warwickshire, she entitled her husband to the possession of this manor. There is a large ancient house still

remaining upon this estate. There are no *charities* in this district, the poor constantly relieved are two, and casually the same number.

This parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Elham. The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, has been many years in ruins, part was still standing in 1518, but, in 1578, the return made at the visitation was, that no church then remained. It was a rectory, valued in the king's books at £2 10 10, the yearly tenths 5s. 1d.

In 1821, there were five dwellings in the parish of Bircholt; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 18, females 15, making a total of 33 souls.

Braborne is the next parish north-eastward to Bircholt, written in Domesday both *Breburne* and *Bradeburne*, deriving its name from its situation on the broad bourne or rivulet rising near it. *The parish* is situated at the foot of the upper range of chalk hills, which extend hence to the sea-shore at Folkstone, and here take the name of Braborne downs. It is about two miles across from north to south, and a little more from east to west, stretching beyond Hampton, as far as the village of Brooke, on one side; and on the other, within a small distance of Stowting lodge. At the foot of the hills westward, are Combe, Bedlestone, the hamlet of West Braborne Street, and Hampton. There are several rivulets, one of which rises near Braborne Street, and runs southward into that branch of the Stour below Scott's hall, and then by Sevington to Ashford. In the southern part of this parish is the heath called Braborne Lees, one half of which only is within its boundaries. There is a famous rabbit warren here, from which Canterbury and all the neighbouring towns are supplied. A fair is held here, the last day of May, for toys and pedlary.

That portion lying within the borough of Cocklescombe is within the hundred and liberty of the Royal manor of Wye. *The manor of* Braborne, soon after the dissolution of the Saxon heptarchy, was, according to a very ancient record, the inheritance of a lady called Salburga, and styled *Domina de Brabourne*. By her will, in 864, she ordered, that the future

possessors should give yearly to the monastery of St. Augustine a quantity of provisions, on condition that they should perform certain religious services for the health of her soul. Who were the possessors of this manor till the time of the Norman Conquest, does not appear; but at the taking the survey of Domesday, it was become part of the possessions of Hugo de Montfort, on whom the Conqueror had bestowed more than thirty other manors and estates in this county, and under the general title of whose lands it was therein entered.

On the exile of his grandson, under Henry I., this manor passed into the king's hands, when it was soon after granted to Robert, son of Bernard de Ver, who married Adeliza, daughter of Hugo de Montfort, and was the founder of the priory of Horton, in the adjoining parish. After that it appears to have passed into the possession of Henry de Essex, who was standard-bearer of England; subsequent to which we find it the property of Baldwin de Betun, earl of Albermarle, who, in the reign of King John, granted it to William Mareschal, earl of Pembroke, with Alice, his daughter, in marriage, to hold to them and their heirs. William, earl of Pembroke, under Henry III. married Alianore, the king's sister, when he had this manor confirmed to him, on condition that she should enjoy it for her life if she survived him. Upon his death she espoused Simon earl of Leicester, who was killed at the battle of Evesham; after which the countess and her children were compelled to leave the land, and died abroad in great poverty. In the interim, the four brothers of William earl of Pembroke, successively earls of Pembroke, being dead, their inheritance was divided between their five sisters and their heirs, when this manor of Braborne was allotted to Joan, second sister, then widow of Warine de Montchensie, by whom she had one son, William, and a daughter, Joan, married to William de Valence, the king's half brother. William taking part with the discontented barons, his estates were confiscated, when William de Valence became possessed of the same, and died under Edward I. leaving Joan his widow, who had them assigned to her as her dower. She died in the reign of Edward II. holding the same *in capite*, and left one son, Ademar, or Aymer de Valence, earl of Pembroke, who succeeded to this inheritance, and attended Edward II. to France, where he was assassinated. Dying without issue, this estate

then went to John de Hastings, son of Isabel, one of the earl's sisters, when John de Badenagh, son of Joan, another sister, inherited after him. He dying under Edward II. left his two sisters coheirs; upon which the eldest, Joan, married David de Strabolgie, earl of Athol, who possessed this manor in right of his wife, and died the following year. His descendant, David, died in the same reign, holding this estate, and leaving, by Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Lord Ferrers, two daughters; the youngest of whom, Philippa, married John Halsham, of Sussex, and became entitled, by her father's will, to this property. By her descendants it then passed to John Lewkner, esq. of Sussex; in whose line it remained till the reign of Henry VII. when Sybella, daughter of Sir Thomas Lewkner, carried it in marriage to Sir William Scott. It so remained till Sir George, in 1700, sold the manor-house, called *Braborne Court lodge*, with the demesne lands belonging to the same, to Thomas Denne, of Patricksborne, whose heirs conveyed the whole to William Deedes, of St. Stephen's; and his eldest son, of the same name, afterwards possessed it. *The manor rents and services*, however, remained in the family of the Scott's for some time after, till Edward Scott alienated the quit rents, together with the park and *pound farms* in this parish, to Thomas Whorwood, esq. of Denton, who by will devised them to Mrs. Cecilia Scott, of Canterbury. Upon the demise of the latter, in 1785, the estate became vested in Lady Markham, heir-at-law of Mr. Whorwood, above mentioned; when, two years after, the whole was purchased by Sir Edward Knatchbull, in which line this property continued. But the *manor of Braborne* itself, with the court-baron, and other manorial rights appertaining thereto, remained in the descendants of George Scott, esq. whose trustees, in the year 1784, conveyed it, with his other estates, to Sir John Honywood, bart. of Evington.

Heminge is a manor lying at the south-east end of this parish, next to Horton, which, in ancient times, gave both surname and residence to a family so called. This manor was thus possessed for nearly three centuries, and then conveyed by William Heminge, in the reign of Edward VI. to Peter Nott; in whose descendants it was vested till the period of Charles II. when it became alienated to Avery Hills, whose daughter conveyed it in marriage to the Hobday's. In 1713 it passed to

Mr. John Nethersole, who left three surviving sons; when the daughter of William, the youngest, became possessed of this estate. On a division of their inheritance, the whole of this manor was allotted to Jacob Sharpe, of Canterbury, who, in 1796, sold it to Mr. Thomas Kennett, of Brabourne. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Combe is another manor in the northern part of this parish, near the downs, and derived its name from the situation, *Cumbe*, signifying, in the Saxon, a bottom or valley; and, to distinguish it from other manors of the same name in this neighbourhood, it was called *Braborne Combe*. About the year 990, one Edward de Cumbe, whose son, Leofard, was a monk of St. Augustine's monastery, by his will bequeathed the land of Cumbe to that institution. How long it remained with the same does not appear, but at the survey of Domesday it was parcel of the possessions of the bishop of Bayeux, under the general title of whose lands it was therein entered. On the disgrace of that prelate, so frequently before adverted to, this manor was held of the crown by a family which took its name from this residence, and by a female heir, under Richard II. it was conveyed in marriage to John Scott; in whose descendants it continued till George, of Scott's hall, procured an Act, under King William, to vest this manor in trustees, to be sold for the payment of his debts, when Brook Bridges, esq. of Goodnestone, became purchaser of the same.

Hampton is the last manor in this parish, being situated in the north-west corner adjoining Brooke. It bears, in ancient deeds, the name of *Hampton Cocklescombe*, and is frequently called only *Cocklescombe*, from its situation in the borough of that name, in the hundred of Wye. This manor was transferred by Robert de Ver to Osbert, his marshal, who gave it again to the priory of Horton. It was afterwards sold, and held at a rental of 40s. in perpetual feefarm, by a family which took the name of Hampton, from this residence, where it remained till the reign of Henry VI. John Hampton then passed it by sale to one Shelley, by whose heir general it became the property of John May, of Bibroke, in Kennington; and his son leaving an only daughter, she transferred it in marriage to John Edolph, of Brenset. His daughter entitled her husband, William Wilcocks, of New Romney, to the same, who died possessed of

this manor in the reign of Elizabeth, holding it in free socage. His widow then remarried Ralph Radcliffe, esq. of Hitchin, in Hertfordshire, who, by her will, devised this manor to her only son, John Wilcocks; whose two sisters becoming his heirs, Martha carried it in marriage to Sir Edward Radcliffe, of Sevington; when his heir, John, dying in 1783, this manor, among his other estates, fell to Sir Charles Farnaby, who afterwards took the name of Radcliffe, and died in 1798, when his heirs became possessed of the same.

Braborne is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Elham. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is large and handsome, consisting of two aisles and as many chancels, the latter containing numerous monuments to the Scott family, as well as one to William Richards. In the south side of the church is a memorial to Dionisia, daughter of Vincent Fynche, esq.; and one likewise to Joan, daughter of Sir Gervas Clifton, married to John Digges. The tower at the west end is large and flat at the summit. There was formerly a very fine yew tree in the churchyard, being fifty-eight feet eleven inches in circumference, no vestige of which is now remaining, but a fine young one flourishes in its place.

The vicarage of Braborne was valued in the king's books at £11 12 6, the yearly tenths £1 3 3. In 1640 the amount was £64, communicants 106; and in 1733 at £100.

In 1821, there were 117 dwellings in the parish of Braborne; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 326, females 273, making a total of 599 souls.

Hastingligh is the next parish northward from Braborne, being called in Domesday *Hastingelai*, from two Saxon words, *hebstan*, highest, and *leah*, a field, or place denoting its high situation. That portion of the parish which contains the village and church is in the hundred of Bircholt franchise; and as much as is in Townborough is within the hundred of Wye. There is only one borough, called Hastingligh borough, in this parish.

The manor of Hastingligh, being within the duchy of Lancaster, was formerly part of the possessions of the bishop of Bayeux, and is entered as such in Domesday record. Four years

after that ecclesiastic's disgrace this manor was granted to the Earl of Leicester, of whom it was held by the family of St. Cliere; which quitting it under Edward III. Thomas de Bax held it of the same earl by knight's service. It afterwards passed to the Haut's, one of whom, Richard, died possessed of it under Henry VII. This manor then came into the possession of Sir Edward Poynings, who died in the reign of Henry VIII. without any legitimate issue, or collateral kindred, when being escheated to the crown, the king granted it, with the manors of *Aldglose*, *Combe*, *Grove*, *Fauscombe*, and *Smeed's farm*, in this parish, to the hospital of the Savoy, in London. On the suppression of the latter, in the reign of Edward VI. he gave them to the mayor and citizens of London, in trust, for the hospitals of Bridewell and St. Thomas's, in Southwark.

Aldglose, as it is generally called, but more properly *Aldclose*, is a manor here, which, at the survey of Domesday, was part of the possessions of the bishop of Bayeux, under the general title of whose lands it was entered. Upon the disgrace of that prelate this manor was granted to Jeffry de Saye, of whom it was held by a family who assumed its name thence under Edward III. It was then separated, and in the hands of different possessors, at which time that portion comprehending the manor passed into the family of the Haut's, and became appendant to the manor of Hastingligh. It then went to the Poyning's, when it was conveyed to St. Thomas's hospital, as before stated, but the demesne lands were let to Mr. John Kidder.

Kingsmill Down is a small hamlet in the southern part of this parish, wherein is a seat which formerly belonged to a family named Beling, or Belling. It afterwards went into the line of the Jacob's, when Mr. Abraham Jacob, of Dover, owned it in the reign of George I.; from which name it passed to Mr. John Sankey, whose son afterwards possessed it.

There are no *parochial charities* here; the number of poor constantly relieved being about ten, and casually five.

Hastingligh is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Elham. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, consists of two aisles and one chancel, having a square tower steeple at the west end of the south aisle. The two aisles and tower appear to be very ancient, and the chancel much older. In the east windows of the latter

are two circular shields of arms, the first within the garter, of four coats, Poynings's, Fitzpaine's, Bryan's, and fourth as the first; the other shield is obliterated. There are also several memorials to the Sankey's; and in the north aisle, on a brass plate, another memento for John Halke, obt. 1604, and on a brass plate *a hawk*.

This church was anciently part of the possessions of the Poyning's, one of whom, Michael, of Terlingham, in Folkstone, held the advowson *in capite* under Edward III. in whose descendants it continued down to Sir Edward Poynings, who died possessed of it under Henry VIII. He held it also *in capite* by the service of supporting and repairing the moiety of a chapel and hall in Dover castle. On his death, without lawful issue or collateral kindred, this advowson was escheated to the crown; when it was granted to one White, whose heirs sold it to Sir John Baker, of Sissinghurst; and he, in the reign of Henry VIII. conveyed it to the king, in whom it remained till the reign of Edward VI. who granted it to Archbishop Cranmer; since which it has remained in possession of that see.

The rectory of Hastingligh was valued in the king's books at £10 5, the yearly tenths at £1 0 6; and was afterwards of the clear yearly value of £68 19. In 1587 there were seventy-five communicants, its estimate being then £70 per annum. In 1640 the communicants were 337, and the value only £60 per annum.

In 1821, there were twenty-six dwellings in the parish of Hastingligh; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 105, females 89, making a total of 194 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF STOWTING

Lies the next hundred from that of Bircholt Barony; to the east is that of Stowting, called in the record of Domesday both *Stotinges* and *Estotinges*. Under the reign of Henry III. it was held by the family of Heringod, also lord of the manor of Stowting, who died possessed of the same in that reign, holding it of the king *in capite*, by the service of six men and one constable, to guard the passage of the sea at Sandgate, in case of the appearance of an enemy. In his successors, owners of that manor, this hundred continued down to Mr. John Jenkin, gent. whose nephew, Mr. William Jenkin, was afterwards proprietor of the court-leet of this hundred, and court-baron of the manor of Stowting.

This hundred contains within its bounds the parishes of Elmsted, Stowting, Monks Horton, and Stanford: and part of the parishes of Sellinge, Stelling, and Waltham; the churches of which are in other hundreds. Two constables have jurisdiction over this district.

Elmsted is the next parish, northward, from Hastingligh, and takes its name among the records of Domesday from the quantity of elms growing in its vicinity; *elm* signifying, in Saxon, that tree, and *stede* a place. The manor of Hastingligh claims over some part of this parish, which portion is within the duchy of Lancaster. Its situation is lonely but healthy, and lying on high ground, forms one continued hill and dale throughout. The church stands on an acclivity in the centre, with the village adjoining, which contains the court lodge. At a small distance westward is *Helchin house*, formerly belonging to Sir John Honywood, and afterwards to the Lushington's. Lower down is Evington court, which Sir John Honywood greatly improved; and at a small distance a heath, called *Evington Lees*, with several houses round it. At the southern bounds of this parish lie Botsham and Holt, both belonging to Sir John Honywood;

and near the north-east corner is Stone street, with a hamlet called *Northlye.* About half a mile distant is *Deane* or *Dane manor house,* and still farther on, *Dowles farm;* near Stone street is also the manor of *Southligh,* now called *Mizlings;* and contiguous to the same street, *Arundel farm.* At the southern extremity of the parish is the manor house of *Dunders,* formerly possessed by the Graydon's, of Fordwick, but afterwards the property of the Right Hon. Robinson Morris lord Rokeby, who resided at Horton. There is a fair held here yearly, on the 25th of July, being St. James's day.

The Manor of Elmsted was, in the year 811, bought by Archbishop Wilfred, of Cenulf king of Mercia, for the benefit of Christ church, in Canterbury; L. S.A.: which letters meant that it should be free and privileged, with the same liberties possessed by Adisham, when given to that church. There is no mention of this manor in Domesday, but it soon afterwards appears to have been held by one Hamo de Elmested by knight's service; which family becoming extinct under Henry III. the Heringod's became possessed of the same; and in them it remained till Grace, a female heir, carried it in marriage to Philip de Hardres, of Hardres, in this county. In their successors it continued till the reign of James I. when Thomas Hardres sold the manor of *Dane court,* an appendage to Elmsted, to one Cloake; and the *Manor of Elmsted,* to Thomas Marsh, gent. of Canterbury, whose son, John, in 1634, conveyed it to John Lushington. A female heir of the latter then carried a part of it in marriage to Mr. James Taylor, of Rodmersham, in 1787, who purchasing the other moiety, his son, Richard, became possessed of the whole.

The manor of Dane, now called *Deane court,* above mentioned, remained in the name of Cloake for some time, when, in 1652, Mr. Samuel Cloake held it. It afterwards passed to the family of the Elmes, of Marcham, in Berkshire, who dying in 1789, devised it by will to his nephew, Thomas Timms, esq.

The *Yoke of Evington* is an estate and seat in the south-west part of this parish, over which the manor of Barton, near Canterbury, claims jurisdiction. The mansion called *Evington court* was the inheritance of a family so called, on the extinction of which we find it possessed by the Gay's, originally from France, where they were called Le Gay. These possessors made

great improvements in this manor, and, in allusion to their name, both the wainscots and windows were adorned with nosegays. They continued owners of this mansion till the beginning of the reign of Henry VII. when Humphrey Gay alienated it to John Honywood, esq. of Sene, in Newington, near Hythe.

The family of Honywood, anciently written Henewood, derived its name from the manor of Henewood, or Honywood, as it was afterwards spelt. Thomas Honywood died in the reign of Edward IV. leaving a son, John, by whose first wife descended the elder branch of this family, settled at Evington; and by his second wife, the younger branch of the same, seated at Petts, in Charing, and Marks hall, in Essex, which latter branch is now extinct. John, the eldest son of the first mentioned, was the purchaser of Evington, where his grandson, Sir Thomas, resided, who died in 1622, and was buried at Elmsted. In this succession it continued down to Sir John Honywood, bart. who, in 1748, succeeded to the title and family estates. On the death of his relation, Frazer Honywood, he, in 1764, became possessed of Malling abbey, and an estate at Hampstead, in Middlesex, at which place he died in 1781. On the demise of Sir John, he was succeeded by his grandson, Sir John, who resided at Evington. He married Frances, one of the daughters of Viscount Courteney, by whom he had three daughters, and one son, born 1787.

Bottsham, anciently and more properly written *Bodesham*, is a manor in the western part of this parish. About the year 687 Swabert, king of Kent, gave three plough lands in a place called *Bodesham* to Eabba, abbess of Minster, in Thanet; and in the reign of Edward the Confessor, Algeric Bigg gave another part to the abbey of St. Augustine, by the description of the lands called Bodesham, on condition that Wade, his knight, should possess them for his life. The former of these continued in that monastery till the reign of Canute, when it was burnt by the Danes; after which the church and lands of the monastery of Minster, and those of *Bodesham*, part of the same, were granted to St. Augustine's monastery, and so remained, together with those given by Algeric Bigg, part of its possessions. Hugh, abbot of St. Augustine's, in the year 1110, granted to Hamo, steward of the king's household, this land of *Bodesham*. Hamo, whose surname was Crevequer, came into England with

the Conqueror, and was rewarded with much land in this county. He lived till the reign of Henry I., and in his descendants it is probable it remained till it went into the possession of the family of Le Gay, when, under Henry VII. it passed to the Honywood's, of Evington.

In the reign of Edward I. Thomas de Morines held half a knight's fée of the archbishop in Elmsted, which estate afterwards passed to the Haut's, and in the reign of Edward III. had acquired the name of the MANOR OF ELMSTED, or SOUTHLIGH. In that family it continued down to Sir William Haut, of Bishopsborne, who died in the reign of Henry VIII. leaving two daughters, Elizabeth, married to Thomas Colepeper, of Bedgbury, and Jane, to Thomas Wyatt; the former of whom, on a division of their inheritance, became possessed of the same. From his heirs it passed by sale to the Best's, and thence to Richard Hardres, esq. of Hardres, whose descendant possessed it under James I.; when, after some intermediate owners, it devolved to one Browning, whose descendant, Mr. John Browning, of Yoklets, in Waltham, afterwards inherited the same.

No *parochial charities* exist in this parish; the poor constantly maintained are about thirty, and casually seventeen.

ELMSTED is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Elham. The church, dedicated to St. James, is a handsome building, and consists of three aisles and the same number of chancels. There are many memorials to the Taylor's, the Lushington's, the Honywood's, and one to Cloke; and beneath the centre chancel is a family vault belonging to the Honywood's. The church of Elmsted, appertaining to the priory of St. Gregory, in Canterbury, was appropriated and confirmed to the same about the reign of Richard I., and was valued in the king's books at £6 13 4. In 1587 the estimate was £30, communicants 180; and in 1640 at £90, the communicants being the same.

In 1821 there were sixty-seven dwellings in the parish of Elmsted; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 239, females 215, making a total of 454 souls.

STOWTING is the next parish south-eastward from Elmsted,

being written in Domesday both *Stotinges* and *Estotinges*, as before observed, and in later records *Stutinges*, now *Stowting*. It is situated in a wild and dreary country, on the ridge of chalk or down hills which intersect this parish. The church stands in the vale, near which is the court lodge. A little above the church rises a spring that runs through this parish southward, by Broad street, and thence by Horton priory, where it joins the Postling branch of the river Stour at some distance below Sellindge. Above the hill is Stowting common; and farther on, Limridge green, round both of which are hamlets of houses. In this part the hills are steep and frequent, the soil barren and flinty, but extremely healthy, as are all the unfertile parts of this county. From a manuscript found in the Surrenden library, it appears that several very ancient urns were discovered in a trough of stone in the old park; and Dr. Gale says, that Roman coins have been found in this parish at different times, which may be easily accounted for from its contiguity to Stone street, that having been the Roman way between their stations, *Durovernum* and *Portum Lemanis*.

The manor of STOWTING was given, in the year 1044, by Agelric Bigge, to Christ church, in Canterbury, and is accordingly entered in Domesday under the title of the archbishop's lands. In the reign of Henry II. this manor was held of the archbishop by the family of Heringod, when, by a female heir, it passed in marriage to William de Kirkby, who farmed the whole hundred of the king. It was then conveyed to the family of Burghersh; but how long it continued in the possession of that line does not appear: however, by the escheat rolls of King Edward III. Walter de Pavely died possessed of it in that reign; when, after passing to Thomas de Aldon, it again returned to Sir Walter de Pavely, knight of the garter. His grandson, under Richard II. released and quit-claimed to Sir Thomas de Valence and others all his right and interest in this property, and they passed it to Sir Thomas Trivet, whose widow died possessed of the same under Henry VI. It was then found that Elizabeth, wife of Edward Nevill, fourth son of the earl of Westmoreland, was next heir in remainder, who entitled her husband, Edward Nevill, lord Bergavenny, to its possession. It was afterwards sold by his son to Sir Thomas Kempe; in whose heirs it remained till the reign of James I., and was then sold to

Josias Clerke, esq. of Westerfield, in Essex. He, in the reign of Charles I. alienated this property to Mr. Thomas Jenkin, gent. of Eythorne; in which line it continued down to William Jenkin, gent. of Horsemonceaux, who barred the entail made of this manor, devising it by will to his brother, John Jenkin, by whose heirs it was afterwards possessed. A court-leet and court-baron is held for the hundred and manor of Stowting.

STOWTING is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Elham. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, consists of one aisle and a chancel, containing little worthy of notice, except some memorials to the family of Jenkin. In the upper part of the window is a canopy finely painted; and in the churchyard some old yew trees.

This rectory was valued in the king's books at £7 17 11, the yearly tenths being 15s. 9½d. In 1588 the estimate was £80 per annum, the communicants eighty; and in 1640 they continued the same.

In 1821, there were thirty-seven dwellings in the parish of Stowting; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 121, females 115, making a total of 236 souls.

MONKS HORTON, generally so called from the priory once situated therein, lies the next district southward from Stowting. It adjoins the down hills, and is esteemed healthy; the surrounding country being dreary, and the soil poor. The valley to the south standing higher than the other part, was called Up Horton, wherein is Mount Morris, situated amidst several hundred acres of dry pasture-ground, extending over the greater portion of this district into the surrounding parishes. At a small distance from Mount Morris stands Horton court lodge and the church. At the survey of Domesday, Horton was part of the possessions of Hugo de Montfort, under the general title of whose lands it was therein entered; and on the voluntary exile of Robert, under Henry I. these estates came to the king, who soon after granted them to Robert de Ver, who married Adeliza, daughter of Hugh de Montfort, when they jointly granted the MANOR OF HORTON, otherwise *Up Horton*, in the early part of the reign of Henry II. to the prior and monks of their new founded priory, in this

parish. In that state it continued till the dissolution under Henry VIII. when it was granted by the king to Archbishop Cranmer; and in this see it remained till the reign of Elizabeth, when it again became vested in the crown, and so continued until granted by Charles I. to trustees for the use of the mayor and citizens of London. Two years after, it was sold to George Rooke, gent. of Mersham, whose descendant, Heyman, alienated it, in the reign of Anne, to Thomas Morris, esq. of this parish, who, dying without male issue, devised the manor to his daughter's son, Morris Drake Morris, esq.; and on failure of issue male in that branch, to the issue male of the said Morris's sister, Elizabeth Drake, by her husband, Mathew Robinson, esq. of Yorkshire. By virtue of that instrument their eldest son, the Right Hon. Mathew Robinson Morris lord Rokeby, became entitled to the same.

The Manor of Sherford, or East Horton, was, in the time of Edward the Confessor, part of the possessions of the abbot and convent of St. Augustine, being then accounted one yoke of land. After the Conquest it was given to Hugh de Montfort, in opposition to the monks, who strenuously defended their right to its possession, and under the general title of his lands it is entered in Domesday. Upon the exile of his grandson, this property was seized by the crown, and most probably afterwards restored to the monastery, for, in the reign of Edward III. we find it held by Sir Richard de Retling of the abbot. Sir Richard dying the same year, bequeathed it to his daughter, Joan, who conveyed it in marriage to John Spicer, esq.; in whose name it continued till the reign of Elizabeth, when, by one of his descendants, it was alienated to Thomas Morris, gent. of London. He, in the reign of King William, erected on the site of this manor a handsome mansion, which he named *Mount Morris*, and died in 1717, leaving an only son, Thomas, who was drowned, under London bridge, on his return from Holland; and a daughter, married first to Mr. Drake, of Cambridgeshire, and secondly to Dr. Conyers Middleton; when, by her first husband, she had Morris Drake, and a daughter, who married Mathew Robinson, esq. Thomas Morris, esq., by will, devised this seat, as well as the manor of East Horton, at his death, in 1717, to his grandson, Morris Drake, esq. who assumed the name of Morris, and dying, the property devolved by entail to

his sister, Elizabeth Drake, who married Mathew Robinson, esq. of Yorkshire, as before mentioned. About the reign of Henry VIII. William Robinson resided at Rookby, in Yorkshire, from whom descended William, of Rookby, whose son was created a baronet. In 1730 Richard, the sixth son, was archbishop of Armagh, and on failure of male issue by his brother, was created Lord Rokeby of the kingdom of Ireland, with remainder to Mathew Robinson, esq. his kinsman, of West Layton, in Yorkshire, and his heirs male.

This prelate died unmarried in 1794, and Septimius, the seventh son, was knighted, and made usher of the black rod. He left three sons, and six daughters, of whom the eldest, and only surviving male, was Mathew Robinson, esq. of West Layton, who, espousing Elizabeth Drake, became possessed of Horton. He died in London in 1778, having had by her seven sons and two daughters, when, of the former, Mathew Robinson Morris, esq. of Horton, was the late Lord Rokeby. This extraordinary nobleman was born about the year 1712, and upon the completion of his education visited Aix la Chapelle, where his wit and politeness gained universal admiration. Upon his return to England he was chosen member for Canterbury, the duties of which station he discharged with unblemished integrity. During the American war, he remonstrated with great energy against the measures adopted by this country, towards the colonists; and, after having been long the representive in Parliament for Canterbury, positively refused to be chosen again, and retired to his seat near Hythe. About that time his lordship came into the enjoyment of his fraternal estate, whereby he was considerably aided in the gratification of his peculiar eccentricities, which, however, did not encroach upon the hospitality of his table, while his conversation was always free and unreserved. His seat, called Mount Morris, near Romney Marsh, is delightfully situated, and his lordship was universally beloved by those individuals who best knew him, and always made proper allowance for his appearance and habits.

In the year 1794, upon the death of his uncle the archbishop of Armagh, he acquired the title of Lord Rokeby, which produced no exaltation in his mind. His external appearance was distinguished by a long beard, descending to his middle, his habits of life approached nearly to primitive simplicity, and

although perfectly affable, he certainly studied every thing opposite to modern manners. His chief diet consisted of beef-tea, nor did he ever touch wine, or any spirituous liquors. He discouraged the use of all articles, save those that were the produce of our own island, conceiving the commodities of this country perfectly competent to the support of its inhabitants. His fondness for bathing was so great, that he frequently remained in the water for several hours, which ablutions were resorted to daily. In the management of his estate he was equally singular, suffering the woods and parks, with which the mansion is surrounded, to run in wild luxuriance, in all directions. The animals also, of every description, were in a perfect state of freedom; it must, however, be confessed, that all these eccentricities were carried to an excess. This venerable nobleman died at his seat in December 1800, in the 88th year of his age.

In the beginning of the reign of Henry II. Robert, son of Bernard de Ver, founded a *priory* in this parish, on part of the demesne lands of the manor of Horton, which was, under Henry VIII. suppressed.

The site of the priory of Horton did not remain long vested in the crown, that monarch granting it to Archbishop Cranmer, who, reconveying the same back to his majesty, was, the following year, passed to Richard Tate, esq. of Stockbury, who was then in possession of this estate by a former lease from the crown. He, under Edward VI., alienated the site of the priory to Walter Mantell, esq. of Heyford, in Northamptonshire, who being attainted and executed, for taking part in Sir Thomas Wyatt's rebellion, under Queen Mary, this estate became forfeited. By Elizabeth the property was restored to his eldest son, Mathew Mantell, to *hold to him and his heirs male*, in whose direct descendants it continued for several generations, until it became vested in Mr. Augustus William Mantell.

This parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Elham. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is small, consisting of one aisle and a chancel. In the latter are two monuments to the family of the Rooke's, and several memorials for the Morris's, who lie in a vault beneath. Against the wall, over Lord Rokeby's pew, is a curious tablet of vellum, whereon is written a long copy of Latin verses, and around the same, various ornaments, with the arms,

and date, 1647, executed in needlework, by Mrs. Sarah, wife of Thomas Morris, gent. whose monument is near it. There are no remains of stained glass in the windows of this edifice. The rectory was valued in the king's books at £7 10 8, and in 1588 at £30, the communicants being 108. In 1640 the estimation was £60, communicants 180.

In 1821, there were thirty-five dwellings in the parish of Monks Horton; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 91, females 95, making a total of 186 souls.

STANFORD is the next parish south-eastward from Horton, and derived its name both from its soil and situation, *stane*, in Saxon, signifying a stone, and *ford*, a river. The parish of Stanford lies in the hundred of Stowting, but that of Westhanger now united to it, is within the hundred of Street. It is very unpleasantly situated, at a small distance below the down hills, the larger portion being pasture ground, and very wet. Stanford street is built on the high road, along Stone street way from Canterbury, in which there is a neat modern-built dwelling, the church standing on an elevation to the eastward. The parish is watered by the stream that rises above Postling church; the bridge, beneath which it runs, having been broken down in the reign of Edward I., a jury ordered it to be repaired by Nicholas Criol. At a small distance westward is the ancient mansion of *Westenhanger*, having a gloomy appearance, presenting an extent of flat pasture ground in front, the above-mentioned stream supplying the broad deep moat whereby it is surrounded. The ruins of this structure, of which there are but little remaining, convince the observer that it was formerly a very large and magnificent building. Its antiquity is no doubt very great, for, if not originally built by one of the family of the Criol's, it was subsequently much enlarged by that race.

From one of the towers still retaining the name of Rosamond's tower, tradition is handed down that the fair mistress of Henry II. was there kept for some time. It seems to have been built about that period, for among the ruins was found the left hand of a well-carved statue, with the end of a sceptre grasped therein, a position peculiar to the prince in question, one of whose

seals was similarly sculptured in the lifetime of his father. The site of the mansion is moated round, having had a drawbridge, gatehouse, and portal, the arch of which was large, and strong, springing from six polygonal pillars, and guarded by a portcullis. The walls were very high, and of great thickness, and the whole embattled and fortified with nine immense towers, alternately square and round, having a gallery reaching throughout the whole, from one end to the other. One of these, with the gallery on the north side, was called, as before observed, *Fair Rosamond's tower*, and the room designated as having been her prison, was not less than 160 feet in length. Over the door of entrance into this structure, was the figure of St. George, carved in stone, and beneath, four shields, one bearing *the arms of England*, and another *a key and crown supported by two angels*. On the right hand was a flight of stone steps conducting to the chapel, curiously vaulted with stonework, erected by Sir Edward Poynings in the reign of Henry VIII. At each corner of the window of this chapel was a canopy, carved in stone, and over it a statue of St. Anthony, with a pig at his feet, having a bell attached to one of its ears; and at the western extremity were the statues of St. Christopher, and King Herod. The great hall was fifty feet long, furnished with a music gallery at one end, and at the other a range of cloisters, which led to the chapel, and other apartments. This mansion contained 126 apartments, and, according to the traditional report, 365 windows. In the year 1701 more than three parts of this fabric were pulled down, and the materials sold for £1000. Subsequently Mr. Champneis, the purchaser, converted the remainder into a small neat edifice, for his residence, which house has again been pulled down, and a still smaller modern one built on the site. All that now remains of this once magnificent pile, and its surrounding buildings, are the walls, and two towers on the north and east sides, which, being undermined by time, have fallen in huge masses into the moat beneath, while the remaining ruins, covered with ivy and trees, growing spontaneously on and through the sides, exhibit an awful scene, presenting a melancholy memento of its ancient grandeur. The whole was constructed of quarry stone, said to have been dug up in the manor of Otterpoole, in Lymne, and ornamented with sculptured stone brought from Caen. The park, which surrounded this mansion,

extended over the east and south parts of this parish, comprising the whole parochial district of Ostenhanger. At the southern boundary is *New Inn green,* so called from an inn built there in the time of Henry VIII. Near the west end of this parish is also a small green, built round with houses, called Gibbin's Brook, situate in the borough of Gimminge, that being its proper name.

The Manor of Stanford was anciently part of the possessions of the family of De Morinis, whose descendants, the Dering's, continued afterwards to possess it. Sir Richard, of Hayton, was owner of the same in the reign of Richard II. who surrendered up the possession to Sir Arnold St. Leger. How it passed afterwards does not appear, but in 1659 we find it the property of Richard Bushbridge, one of whose descendants, in 1699, sold it to George Hamond, of Stanford, and he, in 1733, alienated this manor to Michael Lade, of Canterbury. It then passed to one Wise, of Sandwich, when it ultimately came to Mr. Odiarne Coates, of New Romney.

The Manor of Bekehurst, otherwise Shornecourt, was situated in or near this parish; for, by the Book of Aid, levied anno 20th of Edward III. it appears that the heirs of Walter de Shorne paid aid for it, as the eighth part of a knight's fee, which the said Walter before held in Bekehurst, of John de Criell, as of his manor of Westenhanger. Under Henry VIII. this property was in the possession of Humphrey Gay, gent. and in 1613 became vested in Sir Thomas Hardres, who that year levied a fine, but where it was precisely situated, or who have since owned it, we cannot discover.

Heyton is another manor, lying at the north-west corner of this parish, near Horton, being frequently mentioned in ancient deeds by the name of *Hayte,* and was, in very early times, possessed by a family which thence derived its surname. Alanus de Heyton owned it under Henry II. by knight's service, of Gilbert de Magminot, but dying, Elveva, his sister, married to Deringus de Morinis, became his heir, and entitled her husband to the same, who subscribed himself, as appears from several dateless deeds, *Dominus de Heyton.* Their son, Deringus Fitz-Dering, was the first that dropped the name of Morinis, whose son, Richard Fitz-Dering, likewise styled himself Dominus de Heyton. He died possessed of this estate at the latter

end of the reign of Henry III. and left it to his son, Peter Dering, whose grandson, Richard, appears to have held it, and quitted the possession to Sir Arnold Seyntleger. After that it passed to the family of the Scott's, of Braborne, in whose descendants it remained till the reign of Elizabeth, when the property was alienated to Mr. William Smith, of Stanford, and by one of his descendants, demised by will to his widow, Anne, daughter of Mr. John Drake, of London. She remarrying Mr. George Lynch, the latter, in her right, became possessed of this estate; and in 1789, it passed to his two sisters. A court-baron is held for this manor.

WESTENHANGER, before mentioned, was once a parish of itself, though now united to Stanford. Its ancient name, as appears by the register of the monastery of St. Augustine's, was *Le Hangre*, yet we find it denominated, in the reign of Richard I. both Ostenhanger and Westenhanger, which certainly arose from its having been divided, and in the possession of the two eminent families of the Criol's and the Auberville's. Bertram de Criol was constable of Dover castle and warden of the Cinque Ports under Henry III. who, from his vast possessions, was usually styled *the Great Lord of Kent*. It is said he rebuilt this ancient mansion, and left two sons, Nicholas and John; the former marrying Joan, daughter and heir of Sir William de Auberville, he inherited in her right the other part of this manor called Westenhanger, and John, the younger, his father's share, called Ostenhanger, of which he died possessed under Henry III. as did his son, Bertram, in the reign of Edward I. He leaving two sons, who both died, and a daughter, who became his heir, she carried Ostenhanger in marriage to Sir Richard de Rokesle; who dying without male issue, one of his daughters married Thomas de Poynings, and carried Ostenhanger in dower to him. Thomas died under Edward III. leaving three sons, Nicholas, Michael, and Lucas, de Poynings; when the descendants of the latter were summoned to Parliament by the title of Barons Poynings de St. John, which barony became vested in the duke of Bolton. Upon the division of their inheritance this manor was allotted to the second son, Michael, who died under Edward III. leaving two sons; upon which Thomas succeeded his father, and dying, his younger brother possessed this estate. By a female heir it was then carried in marriage to Sir Henry Percy,

afterwards Earl of Northumberland. A descendant of Richard Poynings subsequently purchased the other part of this great manor, called Westenhanger, and thus became sole possessor of the same. He dying without any legitimate issue, the property became vested in the crown, under Henry VIII. when that prince conferred it on his eldest natural son, Sir Thomas Poynings, remarkable for the beauty of his person and elegance of manners, having been so much in royal favor that he was made K.B. and summoned to Parliament as Baron Poynings, of Ostenhanger. In the same reign the latter, with Dame Catherine, his wife, exchanged this manor and park with the king, for other estates in Dorsetshire. Subsequently Henry VIII. appears to have intended this property as a mansion fit for his residence, as he not only expended much upon its completion, but, two years after, laid into the park a large circuit of land, enclosing many mansions and buildings of the inhabitants, at which time it was indiscriminately called both Ostenhanger and Westenhanger. It so continued in the crown till the reign of Edward VI. when that prince granted it to John Dudley, earl of Warwick, to hold *in capite*, who soon after reconveyed it to the king, when it was given to Edward Fynes, lord Clinton, son of Thomas lord Clinton, by Mary, one of the four daughters of Sir Edward Poynings, above mentioned, to hold *in capite*. That prince, in the 6th year of his reign, made a new grant to the above nobleman and Henry Herdson, his trustee, together with the rectory and advowson, to hold by like service. They soon after alienated the manor of Westenhanger to Richard Sackville, esq. who died possessed of it in the reign of Elizabeth. It appears that he only held it for life, as the above queen, in her progress through this county, anno 1573, is said to have stopped at her own house of Westenhanger, the keeper of which was then Lord Buckhurst, son of Richard Sackville, before mentioned. That princess afterwards granted it to Thomas Smith, esq. who greatly improved the beauty of the mansion, which had been injured by fire. He died in 1591, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Sir John Smith, of Ostenhanger; and he dying in 1609, his son, Sir Thomas, resided likewise at Westenhanger, for by both these names, as before remarked, was this place called: he, in 1628, was created Viscount Stranford of the kingdom of Ireland; and whose son, Philip, conveyed it to trustees;

when it passed to the Finch's, who, in 1701, pulled down the largest part of this stately mansion, and passed it, by sale, to Justinian Champneis, the latter having resided here, and caused to be built a smaller house on the site of the old one. This personage was one of the five Kentish gentlemen, viz. Justinian Champneis; Polhill; the two Colepeper's; and Hamilton; who, in 1701, delivered the celebrated petition from the county of Kent to the house of Commons. By a female heir, part of this estate was carried in marriage to John Burt, esq. of Rocester, whose descendants obtained the royal licence, in 1781, to bear the arms and name of Champneis.

The parish of OSTENHANGER stood, as regards its ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION, in the *deanery* of Lymne and *diocese* of Canterbury. The church, which ranked a rectory, was formerly in the patronage of the owners of the manor.

The rectory was valued in the king's books at £7 12 6, the yearly tenths being 15s. 3d.

The church of Westenhanger has been entirely pulled down, and the materials removed. It stood at a small distance westward of the mansion; and several skeletons have from time to time been dug up, as well as a stone coffin.

STANFORD is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Elham. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is small, consisting of one aisle and a chancel, the edifice containing no memorials whatsoever. In 1588 there were forty communicants.

In 1821, there were thirty-one dwellings in the parish of Stanford; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 111, females 118, making a total of 229 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF KINGHAMFORD

Lies eastward from that of Bridge, the name not being found in Domesday record, although the district is therein mentioned under the denomination of the hundred of *Berham*.

Kinghamford contains within its bounds the parishes of Bishopsborne, Kingston, Barham, Denton in part, and Wooton; with the churches of those parishes, except that of Denton. Two constables hold jurisdiction over this hundred.

Bishopsborne lies the next parish eastward from Bridge, in the hundred of that name. It is called in Domesday *Burnes*, that is *borne*, from the bourne or stream which rises at the head of the river called the Lesser Stour, receiving the name of Bishopsborne from appertaining to the archbishop, as also to distinguish it from several other parishes in the same neighbourhood. There is but one borough in this parish, namely, that of *Bourne*.

This parish is five miles eastward from Canterbury, beyond Bridge, about half a mile from the Dover road, on the entrance of Barham downs. The church and village, together with the parsonage and mansion of Bourne place, form a most beautiful and luxuriant prospect. In this valley, wherein rises the Lesser Stour, and through which, at times, the Nailbourn also runs, is the village of Bourne Street, consisting of a few houses; and near is the small seat of Oswalds, the parsonage occupying the rise of the hill. About a mile distant eastward, in the vale, is Charlton, in a low and damp situation; and westward of the church stands the noble mansion of Bourne place, once the property of Sir Horace Mann, bart. but afterwards the residence of William Harrison, esq. This valley is dry, except after heavy rains, and, southward, the opposite hills rise pretty high, to the woodland called Gosley wood.

The Manor of Bourne, or Bishopsborne, was given by one Aldhun to the monks of Christ church, who, in 811, ex-

changed it with Archbishop Wilfred for the manor of Eastry; when it continued part of the possessions of the see of Canterbury, and in the survey of Domesday was entered under the general title of the archbishop's lands. The primate Cranmer, under Henry VIII. exchanged this manor and park for that of *Langham park*, with Thomas Colepeper, sen. esq. of Bedgbury, who alienated the same to Sir Thomas Aucher, of Ottenden; when it continued in that line of ownership, as also Bourne place, until passed to Stephen Beckingham, esq.

Bourne place, formerly called the manor of *Hautsbourne*, is an ancient seat in this parish, and has, from unity of possession, been long merged in the paramount manor of Bishopsborne; and in early times was possessed by a family who thence derived its name. Godric de Burnes is mentioned in the survey of Domesday as the possessor, and John, in the reign of Edward I. left an only daughter, Helen, who carried this estate in marriage to John de Shelving, of Shelvingborne, whence it acquired the name of Shelvington. They left an only daughter, Benedicta, who conveyed this manor in marriage to Sir Edward de Haut, of Petham, whose son, Nicholas, gave to William, his youngest son, this estate of Bishopsborne; and from him it descended to Sir William Haut, of Hautsbourne. His son, William, in the reign of Henry VIII. dying unmarried, his two daughters became his heirs; when Elizabeth married Thomas Colepeper, esq. of Bedgbury, and Jane, Sir Thomas Wyatt, of Allington castle.; when, upon the division of this estate, Hautsborne was allotted to the former and her husband. Thomas Colepeper having also acquired the manor of Bishopsborne, immediately passed them both away to Sir Anthony Aucher, of Ottenden; at whose death they went to his second son, Edward, whose great grandson, Sir Anthony, created a baronet in 1666, possessed them, and resided here. He left two sons, Anthony and Hewitt, when Anthony dying in 1692, unmarried, was succeeded by his brother Hewitt, and he also dying without issue, the title became extinct, but the estates devolved by will to his sister, Elizabeth. She marrying Dr. Corbett, he died possessed of the manor of Bishopsborne, with this seat, which was usually called *Bournes place*, in 1736, leaving five daughters coheirs; when Catherine marrying Stephen Beckingham, esq. and the other four, joining in the sale of their respective shares to the

above gentleman, he thus became possessed of the whole. Upon his demise in 1756, he left two daughters, and a son, named Stephen, who succeeded as his heir to the manor and mansion of Bourne place.

Bursted is a manor in the southern part of this parish, obscurely situated in an unfrequented valley, among the woods near *Hardres*. It was in ancient deeds written *Burghsted*, and formerly possessed by a family of that name, in which it remained till sold to the Denne's, of Denne hill, in Kingston, when Thomas, under Henry VIII. gave it to his son, William. His grandson, William, died possessed of it in 1640, after which it descended to Mr. Thomas Denne, gent. of Monkton court, in the Isle of Thanet, whose widow afterwards resided here.

Charlton is a seat in the eastern part of this parish, formerly in the possession of a family named Herring; in which it continued till William Herring, anno 3d of James I. conveyed it to John Gibbons, esq. of Frid, in Bethersden, descended from those of that name in Rolvenden. He died possessed of this estate in 1617, as did his son, William, in 1632, whose heirs passed it to Sir Anthony Aucher, bart., when his son, Sir Hewitt, in 1726, gave it by will to his sister, Elizabeth. She carried it in marriage to Dr. Corbett, who leaving his widow surviving, and five daughters, they, with the exception of the eldest, who had married Sir William Hardres, bart. joined with their husbands in the sale of their respective portions to Francis Hender Foote, clerk, who married Catherine, third daughter of Robert Mann, esq. of Linton. He died possessed of them in 1776, when they descended to his eldest son, John Foote, esq. of Charlton, who, in 1784, purchased of the heirs of Lady Hardres the remaining portion, and thus became possessed of the whole.

Bishopsborne is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Bridge. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is large, consisting of three aisles and as many chancels, and contains several memorials. In the centre aisle, opposite the pulpit, is a recess, in which once stood the image of the Virgin; William Hawte, esq. by his will, anno 1462, having, among other relics, given a piece of the stone on which the Archangel Gabriel descended when he saluted her, to serve as a pedestal for this image. In a window of the south aisle are the arms of the Haut's; and in the eastern window,

some fine modern stained glass, with the arms, impaled, of the different marriages of the Beckingham family. On either side of this window are two ranges of small octagon tablets of black marble, intended for the family of the Aucher's, as well as to record their marriages ; and in the churchyard is a vault for the family of the Foote's, of Charlton ; while at the north-east corner of the church porch are several tombs commemorative of the Denne's. This rectory was valued in the king's books at £39 19 2, and the yearly tenths at £3 19 11. In 1588 there were 100 communicants; and in 1640, 148. It was valued, with Barham, at £250 per annum.

In 1821 there were sixty-three dwellings in the parish of Bishopsborne ; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow : males 149, females 176, making a total of 325 souls.

Kingston is the next parish eastward from Bishopsborne, in the upper half-hundred of Winghamford, and contains but one borough, which extends over the whole of this half-hundred.

Kingston is situated in the fine healthy part of East Kent, the Bourne valley continuing through the centre, where it is very narrow, being not more than one mile from east to west, but, the, other way, upwards of four in length. The village, containing the church and parsonage, stands on the southern side of Barham downs, on the rise of the hill, on the opposite side of the valley through which the Nailbourne, at times, runs. Above the village, the hills rise to a poor and barren country, covered with wood, among which, on the summit, is a large tract, called Covert wood ; while beyond, the parish extends to Parmsted and Linsey Bottom, joining the parishes of Upper Hardres, Stelling, and Eleham. On the other side of the Bourne valley, to the north, the ground rises to an open unenclosed country, comprehending within its bounds great part of *Barham downs*, with Ileden and Denne hill, extending beyond the latter to the site of Nethersole house. Barham downs, a portion of this district, so well known by name, consists of a pleasant range of pasture-grounds, of considerable extent, and is, generally speaking, elevated, especially to the east, in which direction it presents

a hill of considerable altitude. It slopes to the south, where there are fine prospects of the surrounding country, interspersed by villages and gentlemen's seats, which abound here in every direction. Upon these downs are held the county races, which annually take place in the month of August. On that part of the downs within this parish there are many remains of Cæsar's works, in his progress through the county, particularly one of his small advanced camp, consisting of a square, with the corners a little rounded, and a single *agger* and *vallum* on three sides of the same, the upper or northern side being left open. It lies on the slope of the hill, opposite Kingston church, to the south-west; and from this camp, westward, are several lines of intrenchments; while contiguous, are numbers of *tumuli* interspersed over these downs, some of considerable extent. The late Mr. Fausset, of Heppington, opened upwards of 300 of those graves, and greatly enriched his valuable collection of Roman antiquities, among which were numerous coins of the first and second brass, viz. *Claudius*, *Gallienus*, *Probus*, *Carausius*, *Allectus*, and *Constantine the Great*. He was of opinion that these *tumuli* were the graves of the inhabitants of the neighbouring villages, promiscuously buried therein at different times. A *denarius* of Tiberius was also dug up amongst these intrenchments. Twine, in his treatise *De Rebus Albionicis*, says, that a barrow of an immense size was opened in the reign of Henry VIII. wherein was discovered a large urn full of ashes and bones, with very large brass and iron helmets, which, however, bore no trace to whom they had belonged. The Roman military way, or Watling street, continues along the lower side of these downs, the whole running in a straight line from Canterbury towards Dover.

Upon this tract, in the year 1213, King John encamped, with an army of 60,000 men, to oppose Philip of France, who was marching to invade this kingdom, but Pandulph, the pope's legate, who was then at the mansion of the Knight's Templars, in this neighbourhood, sent two of them to persuade the king to wait upon him, when John, in the presence of his nobles and the bishops, resigned his crown to the legate, as the pope's representative. Here also, under Henry III. Simon de Montfort, earl of Leicester, being declared general of their army by the discontented barons, marshalled a numerous force to oppose the

landing of Queen Eleanor, whom the king had left behind him in France.

The manor of Kingston was part of those lands given by the Conqueror to Fulbert de Dover, and made up, together, the barony of Fulbert, or Fobert, being held *in capite* by barony; and Chilham being the chief seat, it afterwards bore the title of the barony of Chilham. In his descendants, and in the Stralbolgie's, earls of Athol, this estate continued till it was forfeited, by one of that line, to the crown; whence it was granted, by Edward II. to Bartholomew de Badlesmere, whose son, Giles, dying under Edward III. he left his four sisters his coheirs, and, upon a division of their inheritance, the manor was assigned to Sir John Tiptoft, in right of his wife, Margaret, one of the said coheirs. His son, Robert Tiptoft, dying without male issue, his three daughters became possessed of this property; when Elizabeth carried the manor in marriage to Sir Philip le Despencer. He dying in the reign of Henry VI. it descended to his daughter, Margery, wife of Roger Wentworth, esq. whose descendant, Thomas lord Wentworth, of Nettlested, alienated the same to Thomas Colepeper, esq. of Bedgbury. He soon after conveyed it to Sir Anthony Aucher, of Bishopsborne; in whose descendants it continued down to Sir Anthony Aucher, who, in 1647, passed this manor away to Thomas Gibbon, gent. of Westcliffe; in which family it continued till a female heir conveyed it in marriage to Peter Peters, M. D., of Canterbury. He died possessed of this estate in 1697, when, upon the death of Dr. Peters, this inheritance passed to his daughter, Elizabeth, who, in 1722, entitled her husband, the Rev. William Dejovas Byrche, to the same; who dying in 1792, as well as his widow, a few years after, it passed to Samuel Egerton Brydges, esq. of Denton, who had married their only daughter, Elizabeth. A court-leet and court-baron is held for this manor.

Ileden, or *Ilding*, as it was anciently written, is a seat in this parish, situated below the hill, opposite the northern side of Barham downs, and was anciently part of the possessions of the family of Garwinton, of Garwinton, in which name it continued down to William Garwinton. Joan, his kinswoman, married to Richard Haut, was, under Henry IV. found to be his heir, and Richard, their son, leaving an only daughter, she carried it in marriage to William Patrixborne, whose descendant, James

Isaac, under Henry VII. alienated this seat to the Diggs's, of Diggs court, in Barham. In that family it remained till the reign of Elizabeth, when it was at length sold to Sir Thomas Wilsford, who afterwards rebuilt this seat. He married Mary, daughter of Edward Poynings, by whom he had Sir Thomas Wilsford, of Ileden; when the latter, espousing Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Edwin Sandys, of Norborne, by her he had a son, named James, and three other male offspring. In their descendants it continued down to his great grandson, Sir James Wilsford, of Ileden, who, in 1668, sold this seat to Sir Robert Faunce, of Maidstone. In 1679 he alienated this property to John Cason, esq. who passed it, in 1690, to Thomas Turner, esq. of London, descended from William Turner, of Sutton Valence. His daughter married Sir Thomas Lambe, of London, who dying in 1715, his grandson, Thomas, changed his name to Payler, and died possessed of this estate in 1771. He left one son, married to Charlotte, daughter of William Hammond, esq. late of St. Alban's, whose heir succeeded to the possession of this estate.

Denne hill is another seat on the same side of Barham downs, and acquired its name from the family of Dene, or Denne. Ralph de Dene held a large portion of land in Romney marsh, and at Buckhurst, in Sussex, under William the Conqueror; and Sir Alfred de Den was chief steward of the priory of Christ church, in the reign of Henry III. This family continued, with much honour and repute, down to Michael Denne, esq., who resided here in the reigns of Edward IV. and Henry VII., being descended, by the marriages of his ancestors, from the families of Apulderfield, Earde, Arderne, and Combe. He died possessed of this property in 165.., which was conveyed in marriage by his daughter, to Vincent Denne, esq. of Canterbury, who was descended from the same stock, and dying in 1693, his four daughters became his coheirs, when the whole estate, by sale, became vested in Mr. Robert Beake. He married Bridget, one of the coheiresses, who dying in 1701, his heirs, in the year 1725, sold this property to Lady Hester Gray, who conveyed the same to her eldest son, Sir James Gray, bart. The latter dying soon after, it reverted back to his mother and her daughters; when Elizabeth Nicholl, widow, and Carolina Gray, joined in the sale of the same to John Morse, of London, in 1774, who

greatly improved and embellished this seat. It was then alienated to Hardinge Stracey, esq. who resided here.

PARMESTED, generally called *Parmsted*, is a manor situated in a very obscure situation, among the woods on the opposite side of the parish, more than two miles from the church, close to the boundaries of Upper Hardres, in which parish a great portion is situated, to the south-west of Kingston church. It is, in early records, mentioned as the inheritance of a family of that name, but, previous to the termination of the reign of Edward II. this name became extinct, when the family of Garwinton held this property. One of the latter, William, dying, Joan, his next heir, carried it in marriage to Richard Haut; whose son leaving an only daughter, she conveyed it in dower to William Isaac, esq. of Patrixborne. In the reign of Henry VII. he alienated this manor to Edward Knevet, esq. of Stanway; after which it passed by successive female heirs to different names, when it came to Vincent Denne, of Maidstone. His grandson died possessed of it in 1693, without male issue, leaving four daughters; the youngest of whom, named Honywood, on a partition of the property, entitled her husband, Gilbert Knowler, esq. of Herne, to the possession of this estate, who afterwards conveyed the same to Thomas Harris, hop-factor, of Canterbury; and he, by will, in 1726, gave it to his grandson, Richard Barham, gent. who died possessed of this manor in 1795.

This parish is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Bridge. The church, dedicated to St. Giles, consists of one aisle and a chancel, being small and neat. In the chancel is a monument representing two kneeling figures, with an inscription for John Nethersole, obiit, 1546; there are also many other tombs to the Turner's and the Denne's.

This rectory was valued in the king's books at £16, and the yearly tenths at £1 12 0. In 1588 the estimate was £80, communicants 123, and in 1640 the same. There was formerly a chantry appertaining to this church.

In 1821 there were forty-six dwellings in the parish of Kingston; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 175, females 126, making a total of 301 souls.

Barham, anciently written *Bereham,* lies the next parish eastward, and contains five boroughs, viz. *Buxton, Outelmeston, Derrington, Breach,* and *Shelving.* The manor of *Bishopsborne* claims over almost the whole of this parish.

Barham is situated at the confines of the beautiful country before described, the Northbourne valley running through it. On the rise of the hill to the northward is the village called Barham street, with the church, and beyond the summit, on the further side, is Barham court. At the foot of the same hill, farther eastward, stands the mansion of *Brome,* with its adjoining plantations, extending as far as the Dover road, close to Denne hill, where a superb entrance into these grounds has been erected. Near Brome house the road leads to the left, through Denton street, close to which this parish extends to Folkestone, and to the right towards Eleham and Hythe. The road is chalky and barren, and contains a large waste of pasture called Breach down, whereon there are a number of *tumuli,* or barrows. By the road-side many skeletons have been found, one of which had round its neck a string of beads, of various forms and sizes, from the dimensions of a pigeon's egg to a pea, and close to the same were a sword, dagger, and spear.

In the Nailbourne valley, near the stream, stand the two hamlets of Derington and South Barham; the hills on the opposite side, which rise high, being crowned with wood, part of which is called Covert wood, a manor that belonged to the archiepiscopal see.

Barham, by the survey of Domesday, formerly lay in a hundred of that name, and was given, in 809, by the estimation of seven plough lands, by Cenulph, king of Kent, to Archbishop Wilfred, free from all secular demands. It was afterwards possessed by Odo, bishop of Bayeux, under the general title of whose lands it was entered in Domesday. On the disgrace of that prelate, his possessions became confiscated to the crown, when this estate most probably returned to the see of Canterbury. The property mentioned in Domesday as having been held of the bishop, by Fulbert, comprehended, in all likelihood, the several manors and estates in this parish, now held of the manor of Bishopsborne, one of which was *the manor and seat of Barham court,* situated near the church. This, it is conceived, was originally the court lodge of the manor of Barham, in early

times; previous to its being united to Bishopsborne, and in the reign of Henry II. was held of the archbishop by knight's service, by Sir Randal Fitzurse, one of the four knights who assassinated Archbishop Becket in 1170. The latter having escaped to Ireland, changed his name to Mac Mahon, and, upon his flight, one of his relations took possession of this manor, and assumed from it the name of Berham. His descendant, Warin de Berham, held lands under King John, by knight's service, and in his posterity it continued till Thomas Barham, esq. in the reign of James I. alienated it to the Rev. Charles Fotherbye, dean of Canterbury. He died possessed of this estate in 1619, being eldest son of Martin Fotherbye, of Great Grimsby, in Lincolnshire, and eldest brother of Martin Fotherbye, bishop of Salisbury. His grandson, Charles, dying in 1720, was succeeded in this inheritance by his eldest daughter, Mary, who married Henry Monpesson, esq. of Wiltshire, who resided at Barham court, and died in 1732. She again carried this manor, by a second marriage, to Sir Edward Dering, bart. who surviving him, and dying 1775, this manor passed to her eldest son, Charles Dering, esq. afterwards of Barham court.

The Manors of Brome, and Outelmestone, otherwise *Diggs Court,* are situated in this parish, the latter at the western boundary of the same, and was the first residence of the ancient family of Digg, or as they were afterwards called Diggs, whence it acquired the name of Diggs Court.

John, son of Roger de Mildenhall, otherwise called Diggs, the first mentioned in the pedigrees of this family, lived in the reign of Henry III. at which time, he, or one of his family of the same name, was possessed of the aldermanry of Newingate, in Canterbury, as part of his inheritance. His descendants continued to reside at Diggs court, one of whom gave this manor, at his death, in 1535, to his eldest son, by his first wife, and the manor of Brome to his youngest son, by his second marriage, whose descendants were of Chilham castle. The heirs of John Diggs alienated this manor, with Diggs place, to Captain Halsey, of London, when it passed by sale to several successive owners, and in 1730 was given by the will of Mr. Henry Matson, to trustees, for the repairing of Dover harbour.

The Manor of Brome, however, which went to Leonard Diggs, esq. by his father's bequest, he sold to Basil Dixwell,

esq. of Coton, in Warwickshire, then of Terlingham, in Folkstone, who, having erected a fine mansion here, removed to the same in 1622. He died unmarried in 1641, and devised his estates to his son Basil Dixwell, esq. of Brome. The last Sir Basil, by descent, left his property to his kinsman George Oxenden, esq. of Dean, in Wingham, with an injunction for him to assume the name and arms of Dixwell, but, dying unmarried, he gave this manor and seat to his father, Sir George Oxenden, who settled the whole on his only surviving son, Sir Henry Oxenden, bart, who afterwards resided at Brome.

Shelving is a manor, situated in the borough of its own name, at the eastern boundary of this parish, and was so called from a family which was in ancient times its possessor. John de Shelving resided here in the reign of Edward I. and married the daughter and heir of John de Bourne, by whom he had Waretius de Shelving, whose son, John, of Shelvingborne, married Benedicta de Hougham, and died possessed of this manor under Edward III. His daughter and heir conveyed it in marriage to Sir Edward de Haut, of Petham, in whose descendants it remained down to Sir William Haut, in the reign of Henry VIII. when his eldest daughter and coheir took it in dower to Thomas Colepeper, esq. of Bedgbury. He, in the reign of Edward VI. passed it to Walter Mantle, whose widow carried it by a second marriage to Christopher Cartell, gent. after which it went to the Hobday's, and in that name continued till Hester carried it as her portion to J. Lade, esq. of Boughton. He, having obtained an Act, alienated the same to E. Bridges, esq. of Wooton court, who passed away part of this estate to Sir George Oxenden, bart. Mr. Bridges afterwards died possessed of the remaining part, in 1780, and his eldest son, the Rev. Edward Timewell Bridges, subsequently held this estate.

May Deacon, as it has for many years past been called and written, is a seat in the southern part of this parish, adjoining Denton street, wherein a portion of it is situated. Its original and real name was *Madekin*, being so called from a family which once possessed it. This name continued till the reign of Henry VI. at which period it passed from that family to the Sydnor's, when, under Henry VIII. Paul alienated this seat to James Brooker, who resided here. His daughter and heir carried it in marriage to Sir Henry Oxenden, of Dene, in Wingham, whose grandson, Sir

Henry, sold it in 1664 to Edward Adye, esq. second son of John Adye, of Doddington, one of whose daughters entitled her husband, George Elcocke, esq. afterwards of Madekin, to its possession. It was then conveyed by marriage to Charles Fotherbye, whose daughter, Mary, entitled her two successive husbands, Henry Monpesson, and Sir Edward Dering, to this inheritance; when Charles Dering, esq. of Barham court, her son, ultimately became its owner.

This parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Bridge. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is a handsome building, consisting of a body and side aisle, and a high chancel, with a lofty spire at the west end. In this church are the memorials of George Elcocke, esq. obiit, 1703, and other tombs commemorative of the Nethersole's. In the south sept is a magnificent pyramid of marble, to the family of the Dixwell's, and in the north sept a monument to the Fotherbye's. The church of Barham has always been accounted a chapel to the church of Bishopsborne, and as such was included in the valuation of the same in the king's books, in 1588, when there were 180 communicants, and in 1640, 250.

In 1821, there were 130 dwellings in the parish of Barham; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 433, females 479, making a total of 912 souls.

Denton is the next parish south-eastward of Barham, being written in Domesday *Danitone*, and at the present period, *Denton by Eleham*, to distinguish it from another parish of the same name, near Gravesend; it has only one borough, namely that of Denton.

This parish is situated at the commencement of a wild and dreary country, the hills rising on either side of the valley to a considerable height. The village, called Denton street, lies in the vale, at the northern boundary, not far from Brome, that of Barham extending close to it, at the north end. In Barham parish is the seat of May Deacon; and at the south end Denton court, with the church, from which the hill rises to the hamlet of Selsted, part only of which is in this parish. The road hence

continues over Swinfield, Minnis, to the town of Folkstone, in the southern part of which there is a great deal of woodland.

The Manor of Denton was, at the survey of Domesday, part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Bayeux, under the general title of whose lands it was therein entered; and, upon the confiscation of his property, was granted to Gilbert Magminot. Of the latter line the fee was held by a family which derived its name from this district, Simon de Danitune having held it by knight's service, under Henry III. Not long after it devolved to the possession of a family called Earde, or Yerd, John de Earde possessing it in the reign of King John, as did his descendant Thomas Yerd, esq of Denton, about the period of Henry VII. He leaving an only daughter, she conveyed it in marriage to Thomas Peyton, esq. of Iselham, in Cambridgeshire, whose grandson, Sir Robert, alienated this property to John Boys, esq. of Denton. The latter died possessed of this estate under Henry VIII. when his son, William, new built the mansion about 1574. It afterwards passed by heirship to several different names, and in 1796 was vested in William Robinson, rector of Burfield.

Tappington, otherwise *Tupton*, is a manor in the southern part of this parish, and, in the ancient records of Dover castle, stands numbered among those estates which made up the barony of Fobert, and was held of Fulbert de Dover, by knight's service, by a family of its own name. Gerard de Tappington possessed it under Henry III. after which it appears to have passed to the Yerd's, owners also of Denton manor, who, in the reign of Edward III. became possessed of the whole of this district.

John Yerde, of Denton, conveyed this manor to John Fogge, esq. and he, by fine levied in the reign of Edward IV. passed away his interest in the same to Richard Haut, when his daughter carried it in marriage to William Isaake, one of whose descendants sold it to Sir Robert Peyton, of Cambridgeshire. It then passed to John Boys, who died possessed of this estate in the reign of Henry VIII. when his son William alienated a small part of the demesnes of this manor to the Verrier's, the manor, with the largest portion of the same, having passed to the Marsh's, until Colonel Thomas Marsh, alienated this property to Mr. Thomas Harris, of Canterbury. He dying in 1726, the property was, by his daughter, conveyed in marriage to Mr. John

Barham, whose son, by his grandfather's will, held the inheritance, and in 1795 his son succeeded to this manor and estate.

Denton is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Eleham. The church, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, consists of one aisle and a chancel, having a square tower at the west end, the edifice, though small, being very neat. In the chancel is a memorial for Sir Anthony Percival, obt. 1646; and on a brass plate, fixed to the wall, is another memento, to John Boys, esq. There are also inscriptions on brass, commemorative of the Petit's, of Dandelion; and in a window, on the south side, the arms of the Oxenden's, impaling, in several shields, those of the Twitham's; the Barton's; the Ratlinge's; the Yonge's; the Wenderton's; and the Broadnax's. In the churchyard, adjoining the garden of the mansion-house, is a remarkable building, erected as a Mausoleum by Thomas Whorwood, esq. for himself and family, having several whimsical figures on the top, and under an inscription, commemorative of himself, he having died in 1745.

This living was valued in the king's books at £5 19 4½, the yearly tenths being 11s. 11½d.; and was afterwards estimated at £59 3 0½. In 1588 there were thirty-four communicants, the value being then £50; and in 1640 the estimate was £80, communicants the same.

In 1821 there were twenty-five dwellings in the parish of Denton; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 98, females 98, making a total of 196 souls.

Wooton is the last parish in the hundred of *Kinghamford*, and lies north-eastward of Denton. In ancient times it was called *Wooditon*, but for a considerable period has only been denominated *Wootton*. The largest part is in the hundred of Kinghamford, over which the borough of Shelving claims. The remainder is in that of Eastry, and borough of Gedding.

This parish is obscure and unfrequented, situated amidst the mountainous hills of the eastern part of the county, and, like the adjoining parishes, abounds with coppice wood. The village, called Wootton Street, is situated very high, nearly in the

centre of this district, having the parsonage on one side, and the court lodge and church on the other. Eastward from hence, among the hills and woods, are the boroughs of Shelving and Gedding, in Eastry hundred, from which this parish extends as far as the Dover road, near the sixty-sixth milestone. The want of fertility existing in this parish is compensated for by the salubrity of its air, numerous instances of longevity being found in the register, wherein the yearly average of christenings is about four, and the burials about five in two years.

In the year 800, Cenulf king of Mercia, with his wife, Cengitha, gave to Athelard and the church of Christ, situated there, Geddinge and Wodetone, consisting of four plough lands, with the same exceptions and privileges as the manor of Adisham, possessed with the same. In confirmation of this, he caused to be deposited a turf of the soil on the altar of our Saviour, having, with his own hand, owing to his ignorance of letters, traced a sign of the holy cross, &c. On the partition of the revenues of the church of Canterbury, between the primate Lanfranc and his priory, THE MANOR OF WOOTTON, or WODITON, as it was then called, was allotted as the share of the former, of whom it was subsequently held by knight's service; and, by the inquisition returned by the sheriff in the 12th and 13th of King John, it appears that John de Gestlinges then held it of the archiepiscopal see, by the same service. On the extinction of that name, shortly after, it passed into the succession of a family which thence derived its surname, John de Woditon having held this and the manor of Woditon, in Westwell, about that period. It is probable, from the very ancient part of Wootton court still remaining, either he, or one of his immediate descendants, soon after rebuilt this mansion, but they did not keep possession of the entire manor longer than the reign of Edward II. at which time John de Ore was entitled to one moiety of the same; and, in the 20th of Edward III. he, with Richard Wootton, or Woditon, jointly held this estate of the archbishop, by the tenure above mentioned. The moiety belonging to John de Ore passed to the name of Hall, and was subsequently alienated to the Hales's; and that portion belonging to Richard de Wotton, after continuing in his descendants to the end of the reign of Henry VI. went to the Harfield's, in which line it remained till the time of Henry VIII. when, in 1530, William Harfield did

homage to Archbishop Warham for the whole of this estate, which was alienated by his descendant, Andrew, in the last year of the above reign, to Leonard Diggs. He afterwards resided here, as well as his son, Thomas, both celebrated mathematicians. The latter, who was father of Sir Dudley Diggs, of Chilham castle, in 1573, sold this estate to Thomas Arundel, of Cornwall, who conveyed it to Richard Vincent, gent. by whose will it was sold to Edward Gage, gent. of Bently, in Sussex; and he, together with John Crispe, esq. who had married his daughter, conveyed it, in 1606, to John Coppin, esq. of Bekesborne. In that family it remained till John, in 1638, married Anne, daughter of Thomas Gibbon, esq. of Westcliffe, whose eldest son, John, dying in 1701, without surviving issue, he devised it by will to his two sisters, Susan, married to Robert Garnett, whom she survived; and Dorothy, who died unmarried. The latter settled the reversion of her moiety, in 1704, on John Bridges, esq. barrister-at-law, who was descended from Anthony, third son of Sir John Brydges, created, by Queen Mary, baron of Chandos, of Sudley, in Gloucestershire. He died possessed of this property in 1712, leaving two sons, and a daughter, Deborah, married to Edward Tymewell, esq. of Chigwell, in Essex. On his death, John, the eldest, became entitled to his moiety; and Edward, the second son, on the death of Mrs. Susan Garrett, widow, became, in 1722, by her will, possessed of the other moiety. John dying unmarried, his brother became possessed of the whole in 1780, who left it to his widow, Jemima, daughter and coheir of William Egerton, prebendary of Canterbury. It then passed to the Rev. Tymewell Bridges in 1785, who married Caroline, daughter of Richard Fairfield, esq. of Streatham, in Surrey, who resided at Wootton court, which he rebuilt and much improved.

Geddings is a borough and hamlet at the north-east boundary of this parish, within the limits of the hundred of Eastry, and was given, as before mentioned, to Archbishop Athelard, in the year 800, by Cenulf, king of Mercia. That part which the prior and convent retained, devolved to the crown upon the general dissolution under Henry VIII. who soon after settled it on his newly erected dean and chapter of Canterbury.

The other part, granted by the prior and convent, to hold by suit and service, fell into the possession of the family of Foche,

first settled at Dover, and afterwards at River. John had three sons, the eldest of whom, John, was the last abbot of St. Augustine's monastery; Henry, who was of Ripple, from whom the line of Wootton was descended; and Robert. Those settled at Wootton were proprietors, and resided at *Hill house*, in this parish, about half a mile southward from Geddings, which they became entitled to by marrying a female heir of the Merriweather's, to whom it came from the Hill's, of Ash court. One of the latter sold it, in the reign of Elizabeth, to Henry Foche, who possessed both these estates; and his grandson, upon the restoration of Charles II. alienated the same to Capt. Miller, of Ratcliffe. Mrs. Mary Miller conveyed them in marriage to Sir William Dodwell, of Gloucestershire, whose daughter marrying Thomas Tracey, esq. of Sandiwell, he became entitled to this property, and, in 1755, conveyed it by sale to Herbert Crofts, esq. who again sold the same to Sir Henry Oxenden, bart.; whose son, Sir Henry, of Brome, afterwards possessed this property.

Wickham Bushes is a small manor, situated at the eastern boundary of this parish, near Liddon, and was, in early times, part of the possessions of the eminent family of Guldeford, or Gyldford. Henry of that name possessed it in the reign of Edward II. but it did not long remain in the above family, for, under Edward III. we find it in the possession of Hugh Champneis, who held it by knight's service. It then passed to the Diggs's, of Diggs court, in Barham, and was given, about the reign of Henry V. by John Diggs, to his younger son, Odomarus Diggs, of Newington, near Sittingbourne. In his descendants it remained till Thomas Posthumous Diggs sold it, at the latter end of the reign of Elizabeth, to the Coppin's, who alienated the same to the Brome's; in which name it continued for a considerable number of years. John Brome leaving two daughters, one of them carried this manor in marriage to Mr. John Hamond, surgeon, of Chatham, who died possessed of this estate in 1774; soon after which it was alienated to Mr. Basil Rogers of Hythe, whose daughter, Elizabeth, afterwards possessed the same.

This parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Eleham. The church, dedicated to St. Martin, consists of a body and one chancel, having at the west end a low flat tower. The building is small,

but neat; in the chancel of which is a memorial for James Janeway, rector; as well as several mementos to the family of Coppin; there is also an ancient stone, without an inscription, bearing the arms of Foche.

The church of Wootton was anciently appendant to the manor, and valued in the king's books at £8 10 2½, the yearly tenths being 17s. 0½d. In 1578 the estimate was £60, there being seventy-five communicants; and in 1640, £78, and fifty communicants. In pursuance of the king's mandatory letters, this rectory was, in 1661, augmented in the yearly sum of £40.

In 1821, there were twenty dwellings in the parish of Wooton; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 61, females 70, making a total of 131 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF BRIDGE AND PETHAM

Lies next, southward, from that of Downhamford, and was formerly two distinct hundreds, namely, of Bridge and of Petham, called in Domesday *Brige* and *Piteham*, which appear to have been distinct in the reign of Edward III.

It contains within its bounds the following parishes: Patrixborne, Bridge, Nackington in part, Lower Hardres, Upper Hardres, Petham, and Waltham in part; with the churches of those parishes, and part of the parishes of Chartham and St. Stephen's, otherwise Hackington; the churches of which stand in other districts. Two constables have jurisdiction over this hundred. A court-leet, whereof the king is lord, is annually held for choosing a constable for the hundred of Bridge, and the several borsholders therein.

Patrixborne is the next parish south from Bekesborne, called in Domesday *Borne*, a name derived from the bourn or stream that runs through it; afterwards denominated Patrixborne, to distinguish it from the adjacent parish of Borne, situated on the same stream. This parish contains two boroughs, namely, that of *Marten*, otherwise *Cheney*, and *Patrixborne*.

The parish is pleasantly situated in a healthy country, the little Stour running through the same; close to which, in the valley, is the village and church, with the court lodge and vicarage adjoining, the latter being a genteel residence. Opposite, is Heart hall, formerly belonging to the Sabine's, or Savin's, and afterwards, to the Taylor's, of Bifrons. The upper or north part of the village is in the parish of Bekesborne, wherein was the mansion of the Coppin's, and subsequently of the Milles's, of Nackington; and, at no considerable distance, is also a residence, formerly owned by the Pordage's, and afterwards possessed by the Litheridge's. To the east, this district extends up the hill, over the high downs, to within one field of Ileden; and from the

village, southward, across the Dover road, to a wild and hilly country, as far as Whitehill wood, a portion of which is within this parish. The whole of the valley is well stocked with trees, and the soil fertile, especially in the direction of Hoath, for hops and corn; but the hilly parts consist of poor and chalky land, abounding in stones. No fair is held in this district.

At the taking of Domesday record this parish was the property of the bishop of Bayeux, under which title it was therein entered. On the disgrace of that prelate, the manor was divided, when one portion, afterwards called THE MANOR OF PATRIXBORNE MERTON, was held by Margery de Bornes, who conveyed the same in marriage to John de Pratellis, or de Pratis, a Norman, who, about the year 1200, gave it to his newly erected priory of Beauhill, or *De Bello loco*, in Normandy, to which it afterwards became an alien cell. In this state the manor continued till the reign of Henry IV. when it became alienated to St. Augustine's priory, being of the same order of canons as Merton, in Surrey, whence it acquired the name of Patrixborne Merton. It so remained till the suppression, under Henry VIII. when, passing to the crown, it was granted, with the rectory and advowson of Patrixborne, to Sir Thomas Cheney, to hold, to him and his heirs, *in capite*, as of the castle of Rochester. He was succeeded by his only son, Henry Cheney, esq. afterwards Lord Cheney, who soon after alienated this estate to Sir Thomas Herbert; subsequent to which it passed by sale and alienation into various hands, till it became vested, A.D. 1704, in John Taylor, esq. of Bifrons, in this parish, and in his descendants it continued.

THE OTHER MOIETY of the manor of Patrixborne, called afterwards PATRIXBORNE CHENEY, on the disgrace of the bishop of Bayeux, went into the possession of the family of Say, where it remained till Sir William de Say, under Henry III. gave it to Sir Alexander de Cheney; whose son, William, marrying Margaret, daughter and heir of Sir Robert de Shurland, of Shurland, in Shepey, he removed thither, and having obtained, in the reign of Henry VIII. a grant of the other moiety of the manor, became possessed of the whole. Notwithstanding this, however, it continued as *two separate manors*, in both of which he was succeeded by his son, Henry Cheney, who passed this property, as above mentioned, to Sir Thomas Herbert.

Bifrons is a seat in this parish, situated at a small distance westward from the church, and was originally built by Mr. John Bargar, or Bargrave, whose ancestors were of the adjoining parish of Bridge. Robert Bargrave died in 1600, leaving a numerous issue, and his grandson, John, sold this estate, in 1662, to Sir Arthur Slingsby, of Scriven, in Yorkshire. His son and heir, Sir Charles, in 1677, alienated the property to Mr. Thomas Baker, merchant, of London; on whose death it passed to Mr. William Whotten, who, in 1680, sold it to Thomas Adrian, esq. In 1694 this estate went to the family of the Taylor's, in whose descendants it regularly continued down to the Rev. Edward Taylor, who rebuilt Bifrons on the old site, and died in 1798, leaving four sons and three daughters; when Edward, the eldest, succeeded his father in the possession of this property.

Hode, generally called *Hothe*, and Hothe house in this parish, were anciently part of the possessions of the family of the Isaac's, one of whom, named John, held them under Edward III. His descendant, Edward Isaac, had his lands *disgavelled* under Henry VIII. and his descendant, of the same name, leaving only three daughters his coheirs, this estate was carried by Jane, his only surviving child by his first wife, to Martin Sidley, esq. of Great Chart; and secondly, to Sir Henry Palmer, of Howlets. He, by will, in 1611, gave it to his son-in-law, Sir Isaac Sidley, bart. who conveyed his right to his brother-in-law, Sir Henry Palmer; and from his descendants it went by sale to the Merriweather's. Edward alienated this estate, in 1680, to Thomas Adrian, gent. who conveyed it, with Bifrons, and other estates, in 1694, to John Taylor, esq. when it descended in the same manner down to Edward Taylor, esq.

Renville is a manor in this parish, which formerly belonged to owners of the name of Crippen, one of whom, Thomas, died possessed of it in the beginning of the reign of James I. leaving an only daughter and heir, Joan. She carried it in marriage to Robert Naylor, gent. whose son, John, about the year 1638, sold it to William Kingsley, archdeacon of Canterbury; and he, leaving a numerous issue, George, his eldest son, succeeded to this estate. The only son of the latter, named William, died in 1701, when from William Kingsley, esq. this estate devolved to his grandson, Lieutenant General William Kingsley, who resided at Maidstone, and died in 1769, unmarried. He bequeathed this

manor by will to his first cousin, Mr. Charles Kingsley, of London, for his life; on whose death it went, by entail of the above will, to his second son, Mr. Thomas Pincke Kingsley, of London.

HIGHAM, is another manor, formerly denominated as such, though it has long since lost all pretensions to that title. It is situated at the boundary of this parish, upon the high grounds, at a small distance from the north side of Barham downs, and was anciently possessed by a family of the same name, one of whom, Nicholas, son of William de Higham, by a deed, under Edward III. appears to have held it, with the manor of Northington, in the hundred of Downhamford, not far distant; soon after which it passed into the name of Bourne; and thence to the Haut's, of the adjoining parish of Bishopsbourne, in which it remained till a daughter and coheir of Sir William Haut carried it in marriage to Thomas Colepeper, esq. of Bedgbury. He, in the reign of Henry VIII. alienated this manor to Sir Anthony Aucher, in whose descendants it continued down to Sir Hewitt, who dying in 1726, bequeathed it to his sister, Elizabeth, who entitled her husband, John Corbet, LL.D. of Salop, to its possession. He left five daughters his coheirs, when one of them conveyed it to Ignatius Geohagan, esq. who, about the year 1768, built the present seat, called *Higham place*, where he resided some time. He subsequently alienated this estate to James Hallet, esq. in the year 1781, who purchased the remaining shares of the heirs of Frances, widow of Sir William Hardres, who died in 1783.

PATRIXBORNE is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Bridge. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, consists of one middle and two smaller side aisles, with a high and a south chancel, having a spire steeple. It is small, but appears very ancient, the pillars are large and clumsy, and the arches circular. In the centre aisle are several memorials of the Denne's; and some also for the Taylor's, of Bifrons. In a window, in the north aisle, are the arms of the Fogge's; and beneath the steeple, on the south side, is a fine arched circular doorway, ornamented with carved work, and emblematical figures of Saxon architecture.

The church of Patrixborne, with the chapel of Bridge annexed, was given and appropriated to the priory of Merton, in Surrey,

as early as the year 1258. In that state it continued till the dissolution, when it went, with the manor of Patrixborne, into the king's hands, who granted it to Sir Thomas Cheney, since which it passed in the same line of ownership, down to Edward Taylor, esq. It was, with the chapel of Bridge, valued in the king's books at £5 7 3½, and the yearly tenths at 10s. 8½d. In 1578 there were thirty-nine communicants, and in 1640 the estimate was £60, the communicants being fifty.

In 1821 there were forty-three dwellings in the parish of Patrixborne; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 147, females 121, making a total of 268 souls.

Bridge is the next adjoining parish to Patrixborne, being written in old deeds *Bregge*, having derived its name from the bridge which formerly crossed the stream at this place. The parish was once so considerable as to give name both to the hundred and deanery wherein it is situated. It stands about two miles and a half eastward from Canterbury, on the great Dover road, formerly the Roman Watling street, which appears high and entire throughout the same.

In the valley, on this road, is the village of Bridge, with the church and vicarage, the stream of the Lesser Stour crossing it under a stone bridge, built some years ago from the contributions of the neighbouring gentlemen. At a small distance southward is *Bridge place*, which belonged to the late Judge Yates, and afterwards to Dr. Thomas, late bishop of Rochester. Near it is Gosley wood, once belonging to St. Augustine's monastery, and afterwards granted to Thomas Colepeper, esq. from whom it passed to Mr. Beckingham.

The Manor of Blacksmansbury, otherwise Bridge, claims over the largest part of this district, and the manor of Patrixborne over that portion of this parish on the north side of the Dover road. It contains two boroughs, viz. *Blackmansbury* and *Bridge*.

This manor was part of the possessions of the abbey of St. Augustine, and belonged to the Sacristie, as appears by the registers. In that state it remained till the suppression under Henry VIII. when, passing to the crown, it was, with divers

lands, granted to Henry Lawrence to hold *in capite*. In his descendants it continued till the reign of Elizabeth, when by a fine levied, it was alienated to William Patherick, esq. whose grandson, Sir Edward, passed it in 1638 to Sir Arnold Braems, a family originally from Flanders. Jacob Braems, his ancestor, was of Dover, and built the great house, now the custom-house, where he then resided. He also erected a spacious and magnificent mansion, on the site of the ancient court lodge here, which he called Bridge place. The expense incurred in building this seat so impoverished his estate, that his heirs, about the year 1704, were obliged to sell it to John Taylor, esq. of Bifrons, who soon after pulled down the major part of the fabric, leaving only one wing standing, the size and grandeur of which was quite sufficient for a gentleman's residence. He dying in 1729, this manor and seat continued in his descendants, in the same manner as Bifrons, above mentioned, to his great grandson, Edward Taylor, esq. There is no court-leet held for this manor.

Bereacre, now called *Great* and *Little Barakers*, is another manor in this parish, which was, under Edward I. in the possession of Walter de Kancia, and not long after passed into the possession of a family of its own name. It then went to the Litchfield's, who owned much land about Eastry, Tilmanstone, and Betshanger, and remained in their descendants till the reign of Edward IV. when Robert Litchfield passed it to Richard Haut. His only daughter and heir then carried it in marriage to William Isaac, of Patrixborne, whose descendants, under Henry VIII. sold it to the Petyt's and the Weekes's, who joined in the conveyance of this property to the Naylor's, of Renville. From that name it was alienated to the Smith's and the Watkins's, when it was again sold to John Taylor, esq. of Bifrons, and so descended to Edward Taylor, esq. his grandson and successor.

Bridge is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of its own name. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, consists of three aisles, a high chancel, and a north sept or chancel in the centre of the north aisle. In the high chancel, within the altar rails, is a monument to commemorate Jane, second daughter of Walter Harflete, of Bekesborne. Against the north wall is painted a portrait of Robert Bargrave, gent. of Bridge, who died in 1649; and, under a circular arch, in the same wall, two rows of small ima-

gery, carved in stone, the upper representing the Almighty, with figures on either side, and that beneath displaying a subject taken from the Old Testament. Another tomb represents John Hardy, esq. of Bridge place, who died in 1779, and in a hollow of the wall, on the east side, is an inscription for Macobus Kasey, vicar of Patrixborne, obt. M.V.C.I.XII. The north chancel is used as a school, which is supported by voluntary contributions; and on the south side of the chancel is an arched door, with Saxon ornaments. In the register there are numerous entries from 1580 to 1660, of the Bargraves, residents here, and one for Thomas Cheney, gent. who died in 1620.

The church of Bridge, which ranks a vicarage, was always esteemed as a chapel to that of Patrixborne, and is, consequently, included in the estimate of that vicarage in the king's books; the vicar of which is inducted into it, with the chapel of Bridge annexed. In 1588 there were eighty-nine communicants, and in 1640, 120.

In 1821, there were eighty-six dwellings in the parish of Bridge; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 202, females 230, making a total of 432 souls.

NACKINGTON, in ancient records written *Natindon* and *Natynton*, is the next parish south-westward from Bridge. The major part is in the upper half hundred of Bridge, and a small district of the northern part in the hundred of Whitstaple. It has only one borough, namely *Nackington*.

It lies about a mile north-east from Canterbury, the high road from which to Hythe and Romney Marsh leads through it. The east and west sides of this parish are open unenclosed arable and hop grounds, the eastern part, behind Staplegate, being mostly planted with the latter, and that district to the west arable in which is a large portion of land, called from its extent, the *hundred acres*, formerly *Havenfield*, being the property of several different owners. There is no regular village, the houses being interspersed throughout this part, the church standing on a gentle rise, at a small distance eastward from the road, with the parsonage and court lodge of Sextries contiguous. Beyond Heppington

the country is dreary, and covered with flints, behind which ran the old stone-street way of the Romans, from their station *Durovernum*, or Canterbury, to that of *Portus Lemanis*, or Lymne, which is now only to be traced over the arable lands. Through the woods, a little higher up, is Iffin's wood, formerly the site of the manor of Ytching, as it was anciently spelt under Henry VI. a small part only of which is within this parish. Close to the bounds of the same are the *vestigia* of an *ancient camp*, the outward trenches of which contain about eight acres, whereof only two are level, the rest being cut and intersected by roads. There are numbers of different entrenchments throughout this wood, and one *vallum*, which continues on to the stone-street road. At the north corner of this camp are the remains of an oblong square building of stone, the length stretching east and west. At the east end is a square rise against the wall, apparently formed to serve for an altar, with a hollow in the wall on one side. The foot or pedestal of a gothic pillar, such as the ancients raised for churches, was some years ago found among the rubbish; so that, if this ever was a *prætorium* of a Roman general, a chapel seems to have been erected on its site, probably by the owners of this manor, the same having been deserted when this part of the country was desolated, during the contests between the houses of York and Lancaster.

THERE ARE THREE MANORS in this parish, all of which are in ancient records separately styled *Nackington*. Of these, THE MANOR OF SEXTRIES, OR NACKINGTON, was part of the ancient possessions of the monastery of St. Augustine, and allotted to the use of the sacristie, whence it acquired the former of those names. This manor, in the year 1046, was demised to one Turstan, belonging to the abbot's household, and afterwards sold and alienated from the monastery, which accounts for its not being mentioned in Domesday. However, under Edward I. it appears by the roll of knight's fees, to have again been possessed by the abbot and convent, *Natyndon* being mentioned as the abbot's lordship. It continued in this monastery till the dissolution, when, passing to Henry VIII. he granted it in exchange to Thomas Colepeper, esq. senior, whose son, Sir Alexander, of Bedgbury, alienated it, under Elizabeth, to Sir James Hales, of the Dungeon, in Canterbury. His grandson, in the reign of James I. sold it to John Smith, esq. of London, when it passed by

sale and conveyance to several other names, and ultimately remained with Mr. John Jacob, who resided there.

The Manor of Staplegate, otherwise *Nackington*, is situated in the northern part of this parish, in the hundred of Whitstaple, just without the bounds of the county of the city of Canterbury. It was formerly the seat of an ancient family of the same surname, which owned not only this property, but also lands in Bilsington, Romney Marsh, and Thanet. Edward Staplegate died possessed of this manor under Edward II. whose descendant, Edmund, maintained the noted contest as lord of Bilsington manor, to perform the office of chief butler at the coronation of Richard II. He dying, was succeeded by his brother John, in whose descendants this manor did not long continue, as in the reigns of Henry V. and VI. it appears by the ancient court rolls, to have belonged to Roger Litchfield, who, under Edward IV. alienated it to William Haut. His son, Sir William, leaving two daughters, his coheirs, Elizabeth, the eldest, conveyed it in marriage to Thomas Colepeper, esq. of Bedgbury, who, in the reign of Edward VI. alienated it to Philip Chowte, esq. who sold it to Walter Waller, when he immediately passed it away to Sir Anthony Aucher, of Bishopsborne. It then went to Sir James Hales, of the Dungeon, together with the estate of Sextries, who sold the whole property to John Smith, esq. of London. In that line of ownership they both remained down to Thomas Page, esq. who alienated Nackington to Mr. Hopkins Fox, whose son William died possessed of it in 1794, leaving the same to his eldest son, William.

Heppington is a manor and seat at the south-west boundary of this parish, which, in the reign of Henry II. was possessed by a family of the name of Delce. This line, becoming extinct under Edward III. it passed to William Talbot, and thence to the Chich's, of the Dungeon. In the reign of Henry IV. it had become the property of the Fogge's, when Sir John of that name devised it to his son Sir Thomas, sergeant porter of Calais. His two daughters and coheirs, married to Oxenbridge and Scott, conveyed to them their moieties in 1558, three years after which it was sold to Thomas Hales, esq. of Thanington, in which line it continued until the year 1640, when the estate was alienated to the Godfrey's, of Lyd. Peter of that name, dying in 1684, without issue, on the demise of his wife, Hester, the manor went

by her settlement, to her nephew, Henry Godfrey, esq. of Heppington. He leaving an only daughter Mary, she carried this property in marriage to Bryan Fausset, esq. of Rochester, who rebuilt the seat, and in which name this estate continued.

Nackington House is a seat in this parish, which, under Charles I. was the residence of the Nutt's, after which it passed to Thomas Willys, esq. who, in 1726, succeeded to the baronetcy. It was next sold to Christopher Milles, esq. of Canterbury, who resided here, and died in 1742, when this estate continued vested in his descendants.

This parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of the same. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is small, containing an aisle and two chancels, with a low wooden pointed turret at the north-west corner. This building is very neat, in excellent repair, and, from the narrow circular windows, was, in all probability, erected about the period of Archbishop Lanfranc. In the high chancel are several mementos of the Godfrey's, the Faussett's, the Milles', the Nutt's, the Willys's, and the Pudner's, &c.

The church of Nackington belonged to the priory of St. Gregory, having perhaps been part of its original endowment by the primate Lanfranc. It was early appropriated to the same, and confirmed to it by Archbishop Hubert in the reign of Richard I. subsequent to which it was esteemed a *manor* under the title of

The Manor of Nackington, otherwise the Parsonage, which continued part of the possessions of the priory, until the suppression, when it was granted by Henry VIII. in exchange to the archbishop, and in that see still continues vested.

The vicarage, or perpetual curacy, is not valued in the king's books. In 1661 Archbishop Juxon augmented this curacy by £20 per annum, and the primate, Sheldon, under Charles II. further increased it to £40, which amount is paid yearly to the curate by the lessee of the parsonage. The annual certified value is now £62 18 10.

There is a portion of tithes arising from a district of land in this parish, that formed part of the ancient possessions of the hospital of Eastbridge, and at the endowment of the vicarage of Cosmus Blean was given to the same, being then of

the value of five marcs. This portion now belongs to that vicarage, consisting of the tythes of 116 acres of land.

In 1821 there were twenty dwellings in the parish of Nackington; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 86, females 79, making a total of 165 souls.

Lower Hardres, or *Hards*, as it is usually pronounced, formerly called *Nether* and *Little Hardres*, and sometimes *North Hardres*, to distinguish it from the adjoining, of Upper or South Hardres, lies the next parish south-eastward of Nackington. There is but one borough in this district, namely *Lower Hardres*.

This parish, from its circumscribed dimensions, frequently called *Little Hardres*, is a retired district, on the skirts of the pleasant country late described, which, with the village and church, is situated in the valley, near stone-street way, running near the western bounds of this parish. Near is a farm and pond called Hermansole, supposed to have derived its name either from the Saxon idol named *Ermenseul*, or from the Roman military way on which it stands, *Herman* signifying military, and *sole*, a pond. From the valley on the other side, this parish extends up to a dreary wild country, consisting of high hills and deep dales, the land being very poor, mostly chalky, and covered with sharp flint stones, having frequent woodlands interspersed over the same.

The Manor of Nether, otherwise Lower Hardres, was, at the survey of Domesday, part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Bayeux, under the title of whose lands it was entered. Upon that prelate's disgrace, all his estates were confiscated, when this manor passed into the possession of the Criol's, under Henry III. after which we find it in the name of the Godynton's, as John de Godynton died possessed of it in the reign of Edward I. holding it *in capite*. In the reign of Edward III. this name became extinct, as John de Cobham, John de Mortimer, and John de Swansham, became possessed of the same, holding it by knight's service. Subsequently *that part* of this manor which belonged to the Mortimer's, passed at the latter end of the reign of Richard II. to the possession of the family of the

Digge's. Thence it gained the title of the *Manor of Nether Hardres,* or *Diggs' Court,* in the descendants of which line it continued till Thomas Posthumous Diggs, esq. of Barham, in the reign of Elizabeth, alienated the same to Sir James Hales, of the Dungeon. His grandson, of the same name, dying in 1665, and leaving one daughter and heir, Elizabeth, she conveyed it in marriage, first to Sir Stephen Hales, of Warwickshire, and secondly to George, third son of William Sheldon, esq. of Beoly, in Worcestershire, by neither of whom she had issue. They both died at the Dungeon in 1678; and his heirs, in 1680, alienated this manor to Henry Lee, esq. from whom it gained the name of *Lee's Court,* whose grandson, Henry Lee Warner, esq. of Walsingham abbey, in Norfolk, afterwards possessed this estate.

There is no court-leet held for the manor of Lower Hardres.

Another part of this *manor,* under Edward III. was held by John de Cobham, as above mentioned, and was afterwards called the *manor of North Court,* or *Lower Hardres,* for which he had obtained a charter of *free warren* during the above reign. It continued in his descendants, Lords Cobham, till by female heirs it passed successively by marriage to Sir Thomas Brooke, of Somersetshire, whose descendant, John Brooke, of St. James's, Dover, died possessed of it under Henry VIII. His son, John Brooke, of Denton, sold it in the reign of Edward VI. to Thomas Spylman, esq. of Canterbury, whose son Anthony, of Petham, under Elizabeth, passed it away to Thomas and Humphrey Halls, esqrs. whose joint property in it afterwards becoming vested in James Hales, gent. of the Inner Temple, he sold it to John Bigge, gent. of Hertfordshire; and he in 1676 conveyed it to James Lever, merchant, of London, whose great nephew, James, in 1787, devised it to the Rev. Edward Williams. He, dying in the same year, left it to his sister Mary, who gave it by will to Henry Coope, esq. of Nottinghamshire, and in 1790 it was again sold to Henry Godfrey Fausset, esq. of Heppington. A court-baron is held for this manor.

THE REMAINING PART OF THIS MANOR, which was, under Edward III. held by John de Swansham, and to which no part of the manorial rights seem to have been allotted, devolved to the family of the Diggs', whence it passed, under Henry VIII. into the name of Rigden, in whose time it acquired the name of

Young's Farm. He, in 1697, alienated this estate to Edmund Calamy, clerk, whose grandson Edmund, in 1717, sold it to Thomas Willys, esq. of London, afterwards created a baronet; after which it went to Matthew, Robert, and Thomas Mitchel, the trustees for the several uses to which this, among other estates belonging to the Willys', had been limited, when they, for the use of the several parties concerned, joined in the sale of this estate, in 1788, to Henry Godfrey Faussett, esq. of Heppington.

Lower Hardres is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of the same. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, which appears ancient, is small and dark, consisting of two aisles and two chancels, in which are no inscriptions, the font being very old, and made of Bethersden marble.

This living was valued in the king's books at £7 19 9½, the yearly tenths 15d. 11½d.; the estimate was afterwards £58 19 0½, and subsequently £80. In 1640 the amount was £50, communicants sixty-four.

In 1821, there were twenty-eight dwellings in the parish of Lower Hardres; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 112, females 101, making a total of 213 souls.

Upper Hardres, or Hardes, as it is generally pronounced, written formerly *Great* and *High Hardres*, and sometimes *Much Hardres*, lies the next parish south-eastward from *Lower Hardres*. The largest portion is in the upper half hundred of Bridge; but there is a small part on the eastern side, in the hundred of Loningborough, in the manor of Eleham. There is only one borough in this district, viz. that of Upper Hardres.

The parish is very lonely and unfrequented, situated on high grounds, among the hills, having large tracts of woodland on either side. The stone-street way runs along the valley, near the western boundary.

Hardres Court is elevated in a retired and dreary situation, and has for many years been entirely deserted; near which is the church and parsonage. There is no regular village, but, at a

small distance, near Stelling and the Minnis, a hamlet of cottages, called Bossingham, remains.

The Manor of Upper Hardres, written in Domesday as it is now pronounced, *Hardes*, was, at the survey in 1080, part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Bayeux, under the general title of whose lands it is there entered. On the disgrace of that prelate, the seignory, or fee paramount of this manor was granted to Richard Fitz-Gilbert, whose descendants took the name of Clare, and became earls of Gloucester and Hertford. Of them the manor of Hardres was again held by a family which thence assumed its surname, Robert having held land of the archbishop, as of his manor of Liminge, who most probably resided here as early as the year 1080, under the Norman Conqueror. In that line this estate continued down to Thomas de Hardres, for so that name had been long written, who accompanied Henry VIII. to the siege of Boulogne, for which service he was permitted to transport thence the gates of that city, which still remain at Hardres court, in the garden wall, opposite to the church. The same monarch also, on his return, passed two nights there; and, as a mark of further favor, left his dagger, which was long preserved in that house. Thomas Hardres died holding this manor in 1556, when his lands being disgavelled, by an Act, under Henry VIII. his two sons both dying, the estate went to his brother, Richard Hardres, whose son, Sir Thomas, under Elizabeth, married Eleanor, daughter and heir of Henry Thoresby, esq. master in Chancery. By her he had a successor, who left issue, Peter, D. D. prebendary of Canterbury, and Sir Thomas, the king's sergeant-at-law, ancestor of John Hardres, member for Canterbury. His two daughters and coheirs, Martha and Pledwell, both died unmarried; when Richard, the eldest son of Sir Thomas, was created a baronet in 1642, in whose descendants this manor continued down to Sir William Hardres, who died possessed of the same in 1764, devising it to his widow, Frances. One of the coheirs of John Corbet, esq. of Salop, dying intestate in 1783, this property became vested in her heirs, who were her four sisters and their representatives. A court-baron is held for this manor.

The Manor of Linsore, otherwise, *Linchesore*, occupies the south-east part of this parish, in a deep vale, called *Linsey*

Bottom, enveloped by woods on the rising hills, on either side. This property was given by Ethulwulf, king of the West Saxons, by the name of the land called *Licesora*, to Winhere, abbot of St. Augustine's, for seventy marks, in money. Previous to the survey of Domesday, it was granted to an abbot of Christ church, in feefarm, and held by R. Clifford of that dignitary. Under Richard II. it was possessed in like manner by the family of Garwinton, whence it passed to the Clarke's, who, under Henry VIII. alienated the same to Thomas Beal, gent. of Canterbury. He having vested this property in feoffees, it was sold to William Brent, of Willsborough, whose son, Robert, dying in the reign of Elizabeth, devised it by will to Thomas Brent, of Charing, who, in 1612, conveyed it to his nephew, Richard Dering, of Pluckley. In his descendants it continued down to the reign of Charles I. when Sir Edward Dering became possessed of the same, at which period it is mentioned as having no mansion belonging to it, but that there was the foundation of an old chapel in the middle of Lynsore wood, called Sir Thomas Garwinton's chapel. It is also reported to have been plain ground till the contests between the houses of York and Lancaster, when the country becoming depopulated, nothing but wood remained. Sir Edward Dering sold it to William Young, yeoman of Goceston ; where it continued till Mr. Peter Young, gent. of Ashford, dying about 1787, his only daughter and heir conveyed it in marriage to her husband, the Rev. Edward Norwood.

There are no *parochial charities* ; but Mrs. Denward, of Hardres court, at her own expense, built and endowed a free school in this district for instructing children in reading and writing.

This parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Bridge. The church, dedicated to Sts. Peter and Paul, consists of two aisles and the same number of chancels, with a flat tower at the south side, the edifice being small and ancient. In the high chancel is the burial-place of the family of Hardres, as well as a monument for David Jones, and another, with the figure of a man lying at full length, being the representation of Thomas Hamon, of Acrise. A stone, with figures and ornaments in brass, also remains, commemorative of John Streete, rector, who died in

1404; there are likewise some memorials to the family of Hardres.

This living was valued in the king's books, with the chapel of Stelling, at £19 13 1½, the yearly tenths being £1 19 3½. In 1588 the estimate was £77, communicants 100; and in 1640, £90, communicants the same.

In 1821, there were forty-nine dwellings in the parish of Upper Hardres; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 142, females 101, making a total of 243 souls.

Petham is the next parish southward from *Upper Hardres*, and was once so considerable as to have conferred its name upon the hundred in which it is situated. Being now joined to *Bridge*, it is called the lower half hundred of Petham, and contains the boroughs of *Sapington*, *Broadway*, *Cotterell*, and *Stone Street*. Petham is healthy, occupying a wild romantic district, surrounded by hills, mostly chalky, the western boundary being covered with woodland; while to the east, runs the stone-street way from Canterbury to Hythe and Lymne. Swerdling downs extend from Chartam, for the length of two miles, on a side hill facing the south, as far as Lower Hardres, along the northern part of this parish, the same bearing many marks of intrenchments, which remains of fortifications are supposed to occupy the site whither the Britons retreated after having been driven by the Romans from their holds in the woods; it is also conjectured that Cæsar fought his decisive battle upon this very spot.

At the end of the parish, adjoining Lower Hardres, is a house, called Street End, formerly belonging to the Spracklyn's, then to the Whitfield's, and afterwards to H. Fonnereau, esq. who rebuilt this mansion, and soon after sold it to James Tillard, esq. At a small distance below Swerdling downs are the estates of Sapington, Depden, and Swerdling; and farther on stands the village of Petham, on the road leading to Elmsted and Hastingligh, with the church on the hill at a small distance. From a pond in this village, and sometimes even as high as Dene, in Elmsted, there flows through this valley, though but very seldom, a *nailbourn*, that runs towards Shalmsford, and thence into the river Stour. On the hill, at no great distance west-

ward from the village, is the seat of Kenfield, a conspicuous object from the downs, which it faces.

The Manor of Petham was given, in the year 1036, to Christ church, in Canterbury, by Haldene, a Saxon prince, in the presence of Canute. At the survey of Domesday it constituted part of the possessions of that see, and was entered under the general title of the archbishop's lands. It continued so vested until some time after the reformation, when it passed to the crown, and was, under Charles I. granted to William White and others, who soon after sold it to Henry Thomson, esq. who resided at the manor of Kenfield, in his mansion, then called Upper Kenfield, in this parish. They both continued in his descendants down to Thomas Thomson, esq. who died in 1762, leaving four sons and three daughters; after which it passed to Mr. Henry Thomson. A court-leet and court-baron is held for this manor.

Haut's Place lies partly in this parish and a portion in that of Waltham, which, though now nothing but a mere cottage, was once eminent as being the seat of that family. Sir Piers Fitz-Haut was steward of the king's household under Henry III. and from him descended Sir Edmund, who, under Edward III. had two sons, Nicholas, of Haut's court, and Edmund, father of John, of Surrenden, in Pluckley, whose daughter and coheir carried that seat in marriage to John Dering, ancestor of the Dering's, baronets, of that place. Nicholas Haut left a son, Richard, who, in the reign of Henry VI. alienated Haut's place to Thomas Broumston, of Preston, near Faversham; in whose descendants it remained for some time, and was then sold to one Sawkins, who died possessed of it in 1619. It then passed to the Rev. John Bateman, who devised it to his niece, married to — Philpot, esq. when they joined in the sale of this manor to Mr. Thomas Bridges, of St. Nicholas, in the Isle of Thanet; and he dying possessed of the same in 1777, it descended to his son, Thomas Bridges, esq. of Glanmorganshire.

Sapington manor is in the north-west part of this parish, and was formerly the residence of a family named Ate Bregge, the last of whom, John, conveyed it, under Edward III. to Sir Richard Ate Lese, who had married his only daughter and heir. He dying possessed of it in the reign of Richard II. his elder brother, Marcellus, succeeded, when his daughter, Lucy, mar-

ried first John Norton, esq. and secondly, William Langley, esq. of Knolton, when her issue by her two husbands jointly possessed this property. After much disagreement, they at length sold it, about the period of Henry VI. to Gregory Ballard, esq. after which Nicholas Ballard, under Philip and Mary, alienated it to the Stransham's; from which family it passed to the Appleford's. They conveyed it to the Langford's, from which name four brothers joined in the sale to Archbishop Cranmer; in whose descendants it continued down to Sir William Cranmer, of London, when he dying unmarried in 1697, bequeathed it to his nephew, John Kenrick; after which it ultimately descended to Mathew Kenrick, rector, of Bletchinglye, in Surrey. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Swerdling, or as it is commonly called, *Great Swarling*, lies in the northern part of this parish, near the foot of the downs of the same name. This property was sold by Cenulph king of Mercia, and Cudred king of Kent, to one Vulfhard, a priest belonging to the monastery of Christ church, to be possessed by him in hereditary right, who most probably at his death, if not before, gave it to that monastery. King Edmund afterwards freed it from all secular services; and upon the Conquest, on the division made by Archbishop Lanfranc of the revenues of his church, this manor seems, by the entry in Domesday, to have been previously allotted to the archbishop, as it was then held of him as of his manor of Petham, by Godefrid and Nigell, as therein mentioned. Not long after, this estate became part of the possessions of the eminent family of the Valoign's, and constituted one of their principal seats. Ruallon de Valoigns owned this manor in the reign of Stephen; and Waretius de Valoigns stands recorded in the catalogue of the Kentish gentlemen who accompanied Richard I. to the siege of Acre, in Palestine. Sir Waretius de Valoigns possessed this seat under Edward III. and died without male issue, when it passed to Jeffry de Saye, who held it of the archbishop by knight's service. We then find this property in the family of the Haut's, in whose descendants it continued down to Edward Haut, esq. who did homage for the same to Archbishop Warham in the reign of Henry VII. His heirs conveyed it to the Spilman's, whose descendant, Thomas, gave it in marriage, in 1602, with his daughter, to Edward Hadde, esq. of Canter-

bury; by one of which name, in 1645, part of the mansion was pulled down and subsequently sold to the Spracklyn's, of St. Laurence, in Thanet. About the end of the reign of George I. it passed by sale to the Dawes's, whose descendant, William, of Herne hill, about the year 1747, alienated this manor to Mr. William Hammond, of Stone house, near Canterbury, who died holding the estate in 1773, when his son, of the same name, afterwards possessed it.

In the year 1190 there was a *chapel* at the manor of *Swerdling*, which was served by the brethren of St. John of Jerusalem, and to which John de Valoigns gave land for the provision of one chaplain to perform service in the same.

Depden, or Depeden, so called from its situation, is a manor in this parish, lying south-eastward from Swerdling. It had, in ancient times, owners of its own name, one of whom, John, possessed it under Edward III. but in the reign of Henry IV. it had become the property of William Gratian, clerk, who founded a *chantry* here for one priest, endowing it with the rents of this manor. After the suppression, under Edward VI. it devolved to the crown, and was soon afterwards granted to John Comb and Richard Almot, who joined in the sale of this estate to William Farbrace, yeoman, from which name it was conveyed to one Gregory. He, in the reign of Charles I. alienated this estate to the Sawkins's, of Lyminge, whence it passed to Thomas Morris, esq. of Monks Horton, after which it regularly descended down to the late Lord Rokeby.

This parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Bridge. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is large, and consists of two aisles and one chancel. In the latter and north aisle are several monuments of the family of the Thomson's, of Kenfield, and of the Lefroy's, who intermarried with that family. There are also mementos of the Haske's, and several others to different inhabitants of this parish.

This vicarage was valued in the king's books at £8 0 2½, the yearly tenths at 16s. 0½d. The pension of forty shillings, formerly paid by the prior of St. Osyth, is now received by the vicar from the impropriator. In 1640 the estimate was £40, the communicants being 100.

In 1821 there were ninety-four dwellings in the parish of

Petham; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 263, females 273, making a total of 536 souls.

WALTHAM is the next parish, and lies southward from Petham, deriving its name from being situated among the woods. It is written in ancient records *Temple Waltham*, from the knights templars having been, in early times, possessors of the same. Part only of this parish is in the hundred of Bridge and Petham, another portion in that of *Wye*, and the residue in the hundred of *Stowting*. It contains four boroughs, viz. Waltham, Town Borough, Yoklets, and Bere.

Waltham is situated in a dreary country, among the hills, interspersed with woods, having a deep valley passing through it, and the stone-street road at the eastern boundary.

Near the woods is Wadnall, while on the opposite side of the valley stands the church, with the village called Kake street, and at a small distance the hamlet and green named Hanville, being so called after the family of the Handville's, or Handfield's, whose residence was adjoining. Southward from the church is Grandacre, for many years the habitation of the Proude's, or Prude's, while the southern boundary consists of a wild heathy country, once the noted habitation of the Ashenfield's. The *manor of Waltham*, otherwise *Temple*, was once part of the possessions of the see of Canterbury, and given to the knights Templars by Archbishop Theobald, in the reign of Stephen. Upon the dissolution of that order, under Edward II. this property, among the rest of their possessions, was given to the knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, with whom it continued till their suppression in the reign of Henry VIII. who granted it in exchange for other premises to the archbishop of Canterbury, by whom it was again exchanged with the crown. It so remained till the period of Elizabeth, who granted the site of the same to Thomas Manwaring, and in the latter end of her reign, *the manor itself* to his descendant John Manwaring, whose daughter and heir carried it in marriage to Humphrey Hammond, esq. It then became alienated to Mr. Robert Stapleton, who in 1660 passed it away to Sir William Honywood, bart. of Evington.

WADENHALL, or WADNALL, is a manor situated on the eastern boundary of this parish, near *Stelling*. It was anciently vested in the see of Canterbury, till Archbishop Lanfranc granted it, in fee, to be held by two of his knights, Nigell and Robert, when that primate afterwards gave the tithes of the demesne to the hospital of St. Gregory in *Canterbury*. It then passed into the possession of a family of its own name, and subsequently became the property of the Haut's, William of that name having founded a chapel at this seat in the reign of Edward I. This manor continued in the above family till the reign of Henry VIII. when William leaving two daughters, coheirs, the eldest carried it in marriage to Thomas Colepeper, esq. of Bedgbury, who exchanged it with the king for other premises. The fee then remained in the crown till Queen Elizabeth granted it to Sir John Sotherton, baron of the exchequer, whose heir sold it to Mr. Benjamin Bere, of Canterbury. After having passed through several hands, it ultimately became vested in George Gipps, esq. M.P. for Canterbury, who afterwards sold the same to Sir John Honywood, bart.

WHITACRE is a small manor in the southern part of this parish, which once belonged to the see of Canterbury, and was granted by Archbishop Lanfranc, with Wadenhall, as above mentioned, to Nigell and Robert, his two knights, the tithes of the demesnes being given to the hospital of St. Gregory. It then passed to owners of the same name, one of whom, Nigellus de Whitacre, was probably, from the name, a descendant of Nigell the knight, to whom it had been originally granted; it then passed to the family of the Hilles, when William of that name died possessed of this manor in 1498, devising it to feoffees. They, in pursuance of his will, sold the mansion and adjacent demesnes to Simon a Courte, at whose death, in 1534, they went by will to his son-in-law John Gayler, who alienated them to the Moyle's, after which they passed to the Proude's, and in that line the property continued for a considerable period. The estate then went into the possession of James Sawkins, gent. of Lyminge, who died in 1628, whose descendant sold *Whitacre*, since called the *Walnut-tree Farm*, to one Beacon, who owned the same in 1660; and his heirs afterwards conveyed the whole to Sir William Honywood, bart. of Evington.

HOWEVER THE MANOR OF WHITACRE, otherwise CRANES-

BROOKE, as it was then styled, with the courts, rents, and services, remained in the name of the Hilles for some time longer, and was at length alienated to William Boys, who did homage for the same to Archbishop Morton, in the reign of Henry VII. His descendant, Sir John Boys, of St. Gregory's, by his will, in 1612, settled it on the warden, and poor of his new founded hospital in Canterbury, when it passed to Mr. R. Kelly, of St. Dunstan's, in Canterbury.

ASHENFIELD, as it is now generally called, though more properly *Eshmerfield*, is another manor, lying at the southern boundary of this parish, in Wye hundred, and was formerly part of the possessions of St. Augustine's monastery, being entered under the general title of lands belonging thereto in Domesday. It then passed into the hands of Ralph Fitzbernard, and was subsequently held by Bertram de Criol, who gave it to his younger son, John, and he died possessed of it under Henry III. During that reign, Richard de Clare, earl of Gloucester, lord of Tunbridge, and founder of the priory there, died, as it was thought, of poison, at this manor house. Bertram de Criol succeeded his father, John; leaving two sons, and a daughter, who married Sir Richard de Rokesle, when, upon the death of her two brothers, she became his heir. This manor afterwards descended to her two daughters and coheirs, Agnes, wife of Thomas de Poynings, and Joane, who married Sir William le Baud, when, upon the division of their inheritance, Joane had this manor allotted as her portion. This estate then passed to the name of Lovel, and thence to the Haut's, in which line it continued till Alice, daughter of Sir William, of Bishopsborne, conveyed it in marriage to Sir John Fogge, of Repton. He dying, it was sold to Thomas Kempe, of London, and was afterwards, by a female heir, carried in dower to Sir Dudley Digges, subsequent to which, by sale and conveyance, the manor passed through several successive names, and became ultimately vested in the Rev. Frederick Dodsworth, canon of Windsor.

From the remains of this manor house it appears to have been a castellated mansion, of considerable size and consequence, but now presents only a modern-built farm-house.

This parish is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deancry* of Bridge. The church, dedicated to St. Bartholomew, consists of one aisle and

a chancel; the fabric is very ancient, but has no monuments or inscriptions worthy notice.

This vicarage was valued in the king's books at £7 15 5, the yearly tenths being 16s. 0½d. Archbishop Juxon augmented this vicarage by £20 per annum, to be paid out of the great tithes. In 1588 there were 146 communicants; and in 1640, 120, at which period the estimate was £65 per annum.

In 1821, there were sixty-seven dwellings in the parish of Waltham; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 323, females 259, making a total of 582 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF DOWNHAMFORD

Lies south-westward from that of Blengate. It is written in Domesday *Dunchafort, Donamesford,* and *Donamesfort,* but under Edward I. was written as it is at the present time. This hundred was part of the ancient possessions of St. Augustine's abbey, and so continued till the dissolution under Henry VIII. when, being vested in the crown, it so remained.

This district contains within its bounds the parishes of Stodmarsh, Littleborne, Wickhambreaux, Ickham, Adisham, and Staple, with the churches of those parishes, and the borough of Shourt, in the parish af St. Stephen's, which is under the jurisdiction of the court of Littleborne. Two constables claim jurisdiction over this hundred.

Stodmarsh lies south-westward from Preston, across the marshes, within the parish of Wickham. It was anciently spelt *Stodmerch,* and *Stodmeres,* deriving its name from the Saxon word *stode,* which signifies a mare, and *merse,* a marsh, denoting the marshes used for the feeding of cattle. It contains only one borough, called Stodmarsh. The whole lies in an obscure and unhealthy situation, but the village is neat, and occupies a green, the court lodge standing in a bottom close to the marshes; while above is an open pasture down, over which the road leads to Canterbury.

Lothaire, king of Kent, in the year 673, gave this manor by the description of three plough lands, to St. Augustine's monastery, to hold as free as his predecessors had done. This manor remained vested in the abbey until the dissolution, when, passing to the crown, it was soon after granted by Henry VIII. to John Master, of East Langdon, to hold *in capite.* His eldest son resided at Stodmarsh court, on whose demise this property went to his sister, Elizabeth, who married William Courthope, gent. of Sandwich, when he resided here, as did also his descendants, down to William, of Stodmarsh court. He, dying in 1727, this manor became the property of his two daughters, Amy, married

to John Hugesson, esq. and Sarah, to Mr. John Jull, of Ash, and, upon the division of their inheritance, the former became entitled to this estate in right of his wife, on whose death, in 1766, he left two sons, when William became possessor of this manor.

Stodmarsh is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Bridge. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is small, consisting only of one aisle and a chancel. The building is long and narrow, and appears very ancient, especially the chancel. In the aisle is a stone, coffin-shaped, having thereon a cross, with *four pomels;* near which is a slab, with an inscription in brass, (the figure, however, being lost,) to commemorate William Barnevyle, who died in 1464. In the chancel are several memorials to the Courthope family, and a monument to William Courthope, esq. of Stodmarsh court, A.D. 1727. In the north-west window of the aisle is the figure of the Virgin crowned, bearing the child in her arms; and another of a woman, with the head of an old man lying on her arm; both beautifully sculptured.

This vicarage was valued at £9, and in 1640 at £16; but, through the augmentation of Mrs. Taylor's legacy, to which was added a like sum from Queen Anne's bounty, it was afterwards raised to £60. In 1588 there were sixty-two communicants, and in 1640 the same number.

In 1821, there were twenty-six dwellings in the parish of Stodmarsh; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 67, females 55, making a total of 122 souls.

Littleborne is the next parish adjoining Stodmarsh, to the south-east, which derives its name from being close to the stream that bounds the eastern part of this district, as well as to distinguish it from the other parishes of the name of Borne in this neighbourhood. There is but one borough in the parish, called Littleborne.

Littleborne extends to the skirt of the beautiful and healthy part of east Kent, and verging farther from the large levels of marsh land which lie near the Stour, quits that gloomy aspect, and, in this direction, begins to assume a more pleasant and

healthy appearance. We are informed by Twyne, "that it was allotted by the abbot and convent of St. Augustine's, who possessed this manor, for the plantation of vines." The village is built on the high road leading from Canterbury to Sandwich and Deal, at the eastern boundary of the parish, adjoining the Little Stour, the church standing at a small distance, with the court lodge and parsonage.

Littleborne extends, northward, as far as the Stour, opposite Westbere, near which is an estate, called *Higham*, anciently owned by a family of that name. Above the hill, to the southward, stretches a tract of rough land, called Fishpool downs; and, at the bottom of Fishpool hill, is the valley called the Ponds, now entirely covered with wood. These ponds were formerly supplied by a spring, entitled Arriane's well, probably Adrian's well, made, as it is supposed, to supply the convent of St. Augustine with fish. This parish extends across the river eastward, towards the hill, including great part of Lower Garwinton, which is entirely separated from the rest of the district by the intervening parish of Adisham.

On the abolition of episcopacy, after the death of Charles I. this manor was sold by the state to Sir John Roberts, and John Cogan, the latter of whom, by will in 1657, gave his moiety to the mayor and aldermen of Canterbury, for the benefit of six poor ministers' widows. But the manor of Littleborne, on the restoration, in 1660, returned again to the see of Canterbury.

The manor of *Wolton*, or *Walton*, lies in the southern part of this parish, adjoining the precincts of *Well*, and was once possessed by a family bearing that name, as John de Wolton held it in the reign of Henry III. This family, however, becoming extinct under Edward III., Roger de Garwinton held it by knight's service, in whose descendants it remained till conveyed to the family of the Petit's, of Shalmsford, who alienated the same to Sir Henry Palmer, of Bekesborne; when his heirs passed it to Sir Philip Hales, of Howlets, after which, in 1789, this manor became the property of Isaac Baugh, esq.

Wingate, or Lower Garwinton, is a manor on the eastern side of the river, adjoining Ickham, having derived the former of those names from a family which once owned it. Simon de Wingate held it by knight's service under Henry III.; but previous to the reign of Edward III. this family became extinct,

and Thomas de Garwinton held the same from the abbot of St. Augustine, and resided at this mansion for some time. After that family had quitted possession, the Clyfford's appear, from different records, to have owned it, for it is found by the escheat rolls, that Humphrey Sandford died possessed of the estate under Henry VII. when having passed to the crown in the reign of Henry VIII. that king granted the manors of Wingate and Garwinton to Sir Christopher Hales, master of the rolls. He leaving three daughters, coheirs, upon the division of their estates it was allotted to Mary, who conveyed it in marriage to Alexander Colepeper, esq. in whom it remained till the reign of Elizabeth, when it passed by sale to Thomas Fane, esq. His son, Lord Westmoreland, sold these manors to William Prude, or Proude, who was killed at the siege of Maestricht, in 1632, having devised this estate in tail male, to his eldest surviving son, Serles Prude, who, dying in 1642, leaving only daughters, the property went to his next brother, William. He leaving also only one daughter, the entail became barred, when she carried it in marriage, first to a Nethersole, by whom she had no issue, and secondly to Christopher May, esq. of Rawmere, in Sussex, whose only daughter entitled her husband, William Broadnax, to the possession. His son, Thomas, changed his name, first to May, and then to Knight, and dying possessed of the manor in 1781, left it to his heir, Thomas Knight, esq. of Godmersham, who, in 1785, exchanged it for other lands, with Thomas Barnett, esq. of Lee.

Upper Garwinton Manor lies at the southern boundary of this parish, next to *Adisham*, in which latter district part of the mansion stands; it is written in Domesday *Warwintone*, being one of the numerous instances in that record of the inaccuracy of the Norman scribes. It formed, after the Conquest, part of the possessions of Odo bishop of Bayeux, and was exchanged by that prelate for other lands with the abbot of St. Augustine's.

The manor of Garwintone was held of the abbot by a family which thence derived its surname. Richard de Garwintone resided here under Henry II. and built a chapel, the abbot, in 1194, granting, to him and his heirs, license to have divine service performed for three days in the week in this chapel, by the priest of Littleborne. His descendants continued the possessors until

the reign of Edward III. when Joan, a female heir, carried it in marriage to Richard Haut, whose only son, leaving one daughter, she conveyed it to her husband, William Isaac, esq. of Patrixborne. His descendant, at his death, gave this manor to his two daughters by his second wife, one married to Thomas Appleton, esq.; and the other, to John Jermye; when, sharing this manor between them, they joined in the sale of the entire fee to Sir Henry Palmer, of Howlets. He, by will, in 1611, devised this property to his nephew, John Goodwyn, whose heirs soon after passed it away by sale to George Curteis, esq. of Otterden, who alienated this property to Sir Robert Hales, of Bekesborne; whence passing to Sir Philip Hales, of Howlets, he, in 1787, sold it to Isaac Baugh, esq.

This parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Bridge. The church, dedicated to St. Vincent, consists of three aisles and a chancel, being a good sized building, with a handsome ceiling, the chancel being lofty, with four lancet windows on either side, and three at the end. In the former are some remains of fine painted glass; and in the latter, a few years back, were the seven sacraments, very beautifully executed, but now entirely removed. In the centre aisle are various memorials to the Dennes'; and, in the south-east window of the south aisle, appears a saint, holding a coat of arms, representing the quarterings of the Bunington's; and, in another window, are also the arms of the Higham's. Some years back the north aisle fell down, when several curious paintings were discovered by the breaking of the plaster from the walls.

The vicarage of *Littleborne* was valued in the king's books at £7 19 10, the yearly tenths being 16s. In 1588 there were 150 communicants; and in 1640, the same; when the valuation was £35. It was afterwards augmented by the dean and chapter in the sum of £50 per annum.

In 1821, there were 122 dwellings in the parish of Littleborne; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 378, females 320, making a total of 698 souls.

Wickham Breaus adjoins *Littleborne,* north-eastward,

being generally called *Wickham Brook*, and is also denominated *Wickham by Wingham*, to distinguish it from the two other parishes of the same name in this county. In Domesday it is written *Wicheham*, a name derived from its situation near the banks of the river which runs close to it. One borough only is contained therein, namely, that of *Wickham*, comprehending the whole parish. *Wickham* is situated very low, and consequently unhealthy, from being so near the marshes; the village stands at the south-east boundary of the parish, and is built round a green: the lesser Stour, that crosses the road, turns a mill belonging to the manor; beyond which is a house, called the *Stone house*, built of square stones, and flints in chequers, which, from its arched doors and windows, seems to boast considerable antiquity. The parish stretches to the northward as far as Grove ferry, the house standing within its precincts, as well as the great Stour river, which extends over a level of 500 acres of marsh land. North-eastward is the *Saperton*, formerly the property of the Beake's, who resided here in the reign of Henry VIII. It was sold by them to the Furnese's, when it passed by marriage, with Copthall, in this parish, to the St. John's, viscounts Bolingbroke, who afterwards sold the same. A little beyond this spot is *Newnham*, once called a manor, belonging to the Roper's, lords Teynham; afterwards to the Bartholomew's; and then to Joseph Brooke, esq. of Rochester; from whom, by will, it passed to John Shaw Brooke, of Town Malling. Among the marshes is the hamlet of Grove, through which the road leads, to the right, over the lesser Stour to Wingham, Ash, and the eastern parts of Kent; and to the left, by Grove ferry, over the greater Stour, to the northern part of the county, and the Isle of Thanet. There is no other wood in the parish excepting Trendley park.

At the survey of Domesday, anno 1080, this estate was part of the possessions of Odo bishop of Bayeux, under the general title of whose lands it was therein entered. Upon that prelate's disgrace, this manor was held by the Clifford's; Walter of that name having possessed it under King John, with Agnes de Cundy, his wife. By the marriage of his daughter and heir with John de Brewse, it passed to that name, and William de Brewse, or de Braiosa, as the name was then written in Latin, was possessed of it under Henry III. His descendant, William de

Brewse, lord of the manor, of Brembre, in Sussex, and of Gower, in Wales, whose ancestors landed in England with William the Conqueror, was several times summoned to Parliament in the reign of Edward I. His son died possessed of this manor under Edward II., and it soon after fell into the hands of Edmund, of Woodstock, earl of Kent, half brother of Edward II.; from whom it descended to his brother, John Plantagenet, likewise earl of Kent. He dying in the reign of Edward III., Joan, his sister, called the *Fair Maid of Kent*, became his heir, being then wife of Sir Thomas Holand, who not only possessed this manor in her right, but became also earl of Kent. She afterwards married Edward the Black Prince, and died in the reign of Richard II. being succeeded in this manor by Thomas Holand earl of Kent, her son by her first husband, whose two sons, Thomas and Edward, both earls of Kent, the former created duke of Surrey, in turn succeeded to this property. The latter dying under Henry IV. his five sisters became his coheirs, and, on a division of their property, Edmund earl of March, son of Eleanor countess of March, the eldest of the coheirs, became entitled to this manor, in right of his mother. He died possessed of the manor, when Joan, wife of Sir John Gray, appears, by the escheat rolls, to have afterwards inherited the same. We then find it in the family of the Tibetot's, or Tiptoft's, in whom it continued down to John Tiptoft earl of Worcester, who was attainted and beheaded in 1471. He left an infant son, Edward, who, though restored in blood by Edward IV. was not reinstated in this manor, as it remained in the crown till the reign of Henry VIII. who granted it to Sir Mathew Browne, of Beechworth castle, who passed it away to Lucy, widow of his uncle, Sir Anthony Browne. His grandson, Anthony, was, under Philip and Mary, created viscount Montagne, and died possessed of this manor under Elizabeth. It then continued in this family till the reign of Charles II. when it was sold to Sir Thomas Palmer; after which it passed by marriage to Sir Thomas d'Aeth, of Knowlton, whose widow conveyed it by a second marriage to John Cosman, esq. The latter dying in 1778, and his widow surviving, she continued to possess it till her demise, in 1797, when it devolved to her nephew, Sir Narborough d'Aeth, bart. of Knowlton. A court-leet and court-baron is held for this manor.

Trendley Park, now accounted a manor of itself, is situated at the north-west boundary of this parish, being entirely separated from the rest by that of *Littlebórne*. It was originally part of the possessions of Odo bishop of Bayeux, and is noticed in the survey of Domesday in the account of the manor of Wickham, in which it is mentioned as having been then a *park*, and an appendant to that manor. The prelate in question having exchanged this estate with Archbishop Lanfranc for lands within his park of Wikeham, the instrument was given in two languages, Saxon and Latin, neither of which is a translation of the other, both being originals, a custom prevalent in those days. Appendant is the bishop's seal, in wax, representing that prelate on horseback, with his sword and spurs, as an earl; while, on the reverse, he appears habited as a bishop, with his pastoral staff, this being the only seal of Odo now extant. Trendley park appears by that document to be much more ancient than even that of Woodstock, which has been accounted the first enclosed Park in England. How long it remained thus we cannot learn, but, in the reign of Henry VI. it was so no longer, as appears by the escheat rolls in the 3d year of that reign, having been for a considerable time the property of the family of the Denne's. It lies in an unpleasant part of the parish, opposite Westbere, and consists of 300 acres of woodland, and a house, called the Park house. A high road passes through the middle of this district from Stodmarsh to Canterbury market, which, in the reign of Edward II. was attempted to be shut, but the sheriff, with the *posse comitatus*, was ordered to open it again, as being an ancient and allowed high road.

This parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Bridge. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, consists of three aisles and one chancel; it is not very large, but handsome and neat. In the middle aisle are several memorials for the Beake's, of Saperton; and in the south aisle are others for the Larkins's, who lived at Grove, in this parish. The east window contains some remains of good stained glass, viz. the arms of Edward the Black Prince, together with those of Mortimer quartered with Burgh, and a representation of Herod's daughter, with the decapitation of John the Baptist. In the windows were also many different shields of arms, long since destroyed.

This rectory was valued in the king's books at £29 12 6, the yearly tenths being £2 19 3. In 1588 the estimate was £250, communicants 163; and in 1640, the same.

In 1821 there were eighty-two dwellings in the parish of Wickham Breaus; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 236, females 233, making a total of 469 souls.

The PARISH OF ICKHAM adjoins Wickham to the eastward, and is called in the survey of Domesday both *Hickham* and *Gecham;* while, in some ancient records, it is styled *Yeckham*, deriving its name from the Saxon word *Yeok*, being a yoke of arable land, and *ham*, a village. This parish contains three boroughs, viz. *Cottenham, Seaton,* and *Bramling*.

Ickham is five miles eastward from Canterbury, the high road from which to Deal and Sandwich leads through it across the lesser Stour, usually called the Littleborne river, its western boundary being just below the ford, called Littleborne mill, though belonging to this manor. The trout caught in this river are esteemed the finest of any in either of the rivers denominated Stour.

On the right of the road, on a gentle rise from the stream, is the house and park of Lee, which forms a beautiful picturesque appearance. Adjoining these grounds is Hazeling wood; and on a still higher soil, to the south, are the two estates of Garwinton, near Adisham downs. About a mile from Lee, through the hamlet of Bramling, is the court lodge of that manor, and a modern house, built by John Parramore, esq. whose daughter, Catherine, carried it in marriage to Admiral Charles Knowler, who dying in 1788, left it to his widow.

The village of Ickham, wherein is the church and court lodge, lies low and flat, the road being but little frequented. Farther northward is the borough and hamlet of Seaton; beyond which stretches a level of marsh land, containing about 100 acres, bounded by the lesser Stour and Wingham river. The soil throughout is, generally speaking, fertile and healthy. A fair is held in the village, on Whit Monday, for pedlary and toys.

Offa king of Mercia, anno 791, gave to Christ church, in Canterbury, fifteen plough lands, in *Ickham, Perhamsted,* and

Roching; and several dens in the forest of Andred. This manor then continued part of the possessions of that church till Archbishop Lanfranc, making a division between himself and the priory, it was possessed by the monks, and entered in Domesday accordingly.

This manor was assigned by the convent to the use of their refectory till the dissolution under Henry VIII. who settled it on his newly erected dean and chapter of Canterbury, in whom it still remains. A court-baron is regularly held for this manor, which extends over part of the parishes of *Rucking*, *Snave*, and *Ivechurch*, in Romney marsh.

The Bay Farm, anciently called the *Manor of Baa*, though no longer styled as such, is reputed as having formed part of the paramount manor of Ickham. It stands about a quarter of a mile from the village, and had once owners of the same name, as appears by an old fragment of stained glass in the church, on which the words Hic ..... de Ba remained under a coat of arms. Thomas de Ba is supposed to have resided at this manor, and lies interred in the south chancel of the church. Under an arch in the wall are his effigies at full length, habited in armour, on a tomb, almost entire, but without any inscription.

Upon this family becoming extinct, the Wenderton's, of Wenderton, in Wingham, became owners of this estate, and so continued till John of that name, under Henry VIII. passed it away to Archbishop Warham, who, at his death, in 1533, devised it to his younger brother, Hugh Warham, of Croydon. The latter gave it in marriage with his daughter to Sir Anthony St. Leger, lord deputy of Ireland, whose son, Sir Warham, afterwards sold it to Stephen Hougham, of Ash. It then passed by sale, first to the Denne's, thence to the Curling's; and, in the reign of James I. was possessed by Richard Austen, gent. in whose descendants it continued till alienated to Richard Gillow, of Woodnesborough; and subsequently came to Mr. Richard Gibbs, of Ickham court, in the year 1704.

Bramling is a manor in the south-east part of this parish, and in the year 784 was given by one Wulluf to the monks of Christ church, in Canterbury, King Edulf having confirmed that grant. It remained in the priory till the dissolution, under Henry VIII. who then settled it on his dean and chapter of Canterbury.

Apulton, or Appleton, as it is at present called, lies at a small distance southward from *Bramling*, but is now too insignificant to bear the name of a manor. It is written in old deeds *Apylton*, having once been possessed by a family of that name; upon the extinction of which line, it became the property of the Denis's; after whom it appears by a private deed to have been owned by one Adam Oldmeade. In the reign of Henry VI. this property was passed by sale to the Bemboe's; after which it went through the following names, viz. the Hunt's; the Dormer's; the Gason's; the Hodgekin's; the Uffington's; the Rutland's; the Winter's; the Denne's; and the Forster's. In 1680, one half was purchased by Sir James Oxenden, of Dean, who dying possessed of the estate in 1775, his son, Sir Henry, of Brome, became the owner, who, having purchased the other moiety of Mr. Simon Durrant, thus became proprietor of the whole.

Lee is a seat situated in the south-west part of this parish, at a small distance from the river. It was formerly spelt *Legh*, and belonged to a family who assumed that surname, Richard de Legh having owned it in the reign of Edward I. How long it remained in his descendants does not appear, but at the latter end of the reign of Edward IV. the family of the Stok's, or Stoky's, as the name was sometimes written, became possessors of this estate. On that name becoming extinct, it went by sale, under James I. to Sir William Southland, and descended to his grandson, Thomas; when he, in 1676, alienated this estate to Paul Barrett, esq. his grandson. Thomas was also of Lee, and died in 1757, having had four wives, by whom he had three sons, who died infants, and one daughter, who married the Rev. William Dejovas Byrch, of Canterbury, who by his last wife had a son and heir, Thomas, when, dying in 1785, the latter succeeded to this estate.

The house of Lee manor, which was a very indifferent mansion, was much improved by the skill of Mr. Wyatt, who finished the same in the Gothic taste. The three fronts of the mansion convey the idea of a small convent, partly modernised, and adapted for the habitation of a gentleman's family. The gently rising ground, the spreading trees, and adjoining rivulet, seem to correspond, apparently forming a site selected by monks for retirement and meditation. In the mansion is a small but good collection of pictures.

WELL is a *district* on the west side of the river, near Littleborne, which, as late as the beginning of the reign of James I. was esteemed part of that parish, but has been, for a number of years past, annexed to the parish of Ickham. Though the principal part is situated as above mentioned, yet some portions are separated by intervening parishes. *The manor,* usually called *Well court,* stands close to the banks of the river, and was, in very early times, the property of the Clifford family, whence it passed into the possession of those who took their surname from this place. John at Welle, in the reign of Henry III. sold it to Reginald de Cornhill, who left by Matilda, his wife, an only daughter and heir, who carried this manor in marriage to one of the family of Garwinton. In that name it descended to Mr. William Garwinton, on whose demise, Joan, his heir, married Richard Haut, and entitled him in her right to Welle manor. In their descendants it continued down to Richard Haut, who leaving also an only daughter, she carried this manor in marriage to William Isaak, esq. of Patrixborne. By female descent it then passed to Sir Henry Palmer, of Bekesborne, who died possessed of the property in 1611, leaving this manor to John White. How it afterwards devolved we cannot ascertain, but, in the year 1680, it had become the property of Mr. Francis Jeoffrey, whose only daughter entitled her husband, John Knowler, to its possession, and they having joined in the conveyance of the same to Robert Daines, this last owner devised it, in 1733, to Daines Balderston. He then passed this estate to his father, George Balderston, of Dover, who died in 1751, leaving his wife surviving; when her trustees, in 1775, sold it to Sir Philip Hales, bart. The latter then alienated this and other estates to Isaac Baugh, esq. who afterwards built a seat for his residence on the rise of the hill, within this precinct, about a quarter of a mile from the court lodge.

The ruins of the chapel or church of Well, adjoining the court lodge, are still remaining, and were entire in 1535, in which year Thomas Franklyn, vicar of Ickham, devised a legacy for its repairs.

This parish is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Bridge. The church, which is exempt from the jurisdiction of the archdeacon, is dedicated to St. John, and consists of three aisles, with a

cross sept and high chancel. In this latter is a stone, with a *cross flory*, having old French capitals round the edge, now obliterated; and another memorial also exists here for Sir Richard Head, obt. 1721; beneath which is a large vault, containing the remains of several of that family, and a memento for Admiral Charles Knowler, obt. 1781. The transept or south chancel, called the Bay chancel, belongs to that estate. On a tomb, under an arch in the south wall, is the figure of a man in armour, with his hands joined and uplifted, lying at full length, very entire, probably for Thomas de Baa, owner of that manor. There is also a vault for the family of the Barrett's; and many other memorials to the owners of the different manors in this parish, too numerous for insertion. Several years back, this church contained eighteen stalls, which were used by the prior and monks of Christ church, when they resorted hither; and in the windows were formerly the arms of the Fitzalan's, and also of the priory of Christ church. There was once a chapel, dedicated to St. Thomas, which had a light perpetually burning therein. This church was valued in the king's books at £29 13 4, the yearly tenths being £2 19 4. In 1588, its value was £150, communicants 205; and in 1640 at £250 per annum, communicants the same.

In 1821 there were eighty-nine dwellings in the parish of Ickham; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 273, females 248, making a total of 521 souls.

The parish of Adisham, generally called *Adsham*, is the next south-eastward from *Ickham*, being written in Domesday *Edesham*. There is but one borough therein, namely, that of *Adisham*. At the time of the Conquest it was reputed to have comprised a hundred boroughs, and stands recorded as being within the lath of Æstraie.

This district is extremely pleasant and healthy, in a fine open country, and extends about two miles in extent either way. The village consists of but few houses, having a large and dangerous pond, through which the road leads in the centre. Near the same are two hamlets, called Dane street, and Bludden; and at some distance, the estates of Ovenden and Bossington, with the

manor of Cooting, all of which belonged to Sir Henry Oxenden, bart. of Brome, the latter having been in that family for some generations.

Adisham for the most part presents an open champaign country, interspersed with small enclosures and coppice wood, together with many villages, with their churches and seats, the whole forming a beautiful picturesque appearance. There is much hill and dale; while the valleys, spacious and wild, are bounded by the sea, covered with shipping of our own and other nations, and commanding, in the distance, a view of the white cliffs of France.

The Manor of Adisham was given, in the year 616, by Eadbald king of Kent, son of Ethelbert, to the monks of Christ church, in Canterbury, *ad cibum*, that is, for the use of their refectory, free from all secular services and fiscal tribute, excepting the three customs of repelling invasions, and the repairs of bridges and castles, the common burthen from which none were exempted.

After the Conquest, on the division made by Archbishop Lanfranc of his revenues with the monks of Christ church, this manor was allotted to the latter, and entered in Domesday under the general title of their possessions. In the reign of Edward II. the prior of Christ church obtained a grant of *free warren* in all his demesne lands; in which state it continued till the dissolution, under Henry VIII. who settled it on his dean and chapter of Canterbury. A court-leet and court-baron is held for this manor.

Adisham is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Bridge. The church, dedicated to the Holy Innocents, is exempt from the jurisdiction of the archdeacon, and consists of one aisle, a transept, and a high chancel. The aisle and south sept are but indifferently built, but the rest is much superior in style of workmanship, having narrow lancet windows. In the south sept, or cross, are several ancient coffin-shaped stones, one of which has a *cross flory*, with old French capitals, nearly obliterated. In the chancel many of the family of Austen lay interred, and the font is very ancient. Just below the north sept is a chapel, shut out from the church, wherein there is much broken stone carved work; however, it is not known to what the same originally

appertained. Sir George Oxenden, bart. who died in the East Indies, and was buried at Surat, gave by will £300 towards the reparations of this church.

The rector is collated and inducted into the living of Adisham, with the chapel of Staple annexed.

This rectory, with the chapel, was valued in the king's books at £28 5 1½, the yearly tenths being £2 16 3½. In 1588 there were 116 communicants, and the valuation then was £160. In 1640 the estimate was the same, but subsequently raised to £500.

In 1821 there were thirty-nine dwellings in the parish of Adisham; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 169, females 136, making a total of 305 souls.

The parish of Staple lies north-eastward of *Adisham*, from which, with the remaining part of the hundred of *Downhamford*, it is separated by the hundred and parish of *Wingham* intervening. The manor of Adisham claims over this parish, and at that court a borsholder is chosen for the borough of *Staple*, which extends over the whole of this parish.

It is pleasantly situated, for the most part upon high ground. The village, called Staple Street, consists of but few houses, with the seat of Groves, and the church adjoining, beyond which, this parish extends into the vale eastward, as far as Durloch bridge, on the stream which rises near it, and runs hence to Danne bridge, into the Wingham stream. On the high ground, on the opposite side of the valley, is the hamlet of *Shatterling*, built on the high road leading from *Canterbury* through *Wingham*, towards *Ash* and *Sandwich*. Upon the opposite side of the parish is Crixall house, once a gentleman's seat, but now nothing more than a farm-house. Near it is a piece of ground called *Crixall Rough*, with a noted cluster of trees, conspicuous to the surrounding country. A fair is held on the 25th of July, for toys and pedlary.

Groves is a mansion in this parish, which was, in former times, the residence of a knightly family called Grove, which in ancient deeds was sometimes written *at Grove*, and so remained till the reign of Henry VI. when it devolved by descent to Sir John Grove, who was a great benefactor to the church of St.

Peter, in Sandwich, where he lies buried under a monument, with his effigies at full length. This seat was soon after carried by a female heir in marriage to one of the family of the Nicholas's, in which it did not long remain, for in the reign of Edward IV. it was alienated to the Quilter's, and Christopher of that name, in the reign of Elizabeth, sold this, together with his interest in the lease of the manor of *Down Court*, to Simon Lynch, gent. of Sandwich. This seat then continued down to John Lynch, esq. of Groves, who married Sarah, daughter of Francis Head, esq. of Rochester, who in 1710 died in childbed of her nineteenth infant, of whom only two sons and five daughters survived. John, the eldest, was of Groves, and also dean of Canterbury, whose eldest son, William, succeeded, and served twice in parliament for that city. He was envoy extraordinary to the court at Turin, and dying abroad, in 1785, possessed of this seat, bequeathed the same, with the rest of his estates, to his widow Lady Lynch.

The Manor of Crixall, or more properly *Crickshall*, and in some old deeds written *Crickleadhall*, is an estate in the southern part of this parish, once owned by a family named Brockhull, in which it continued till the reign of Edward I. when it was settled upon a daughter; we cannot, however, find whether she carried it in marriage or not to the Wadham's, who nevertheless possessed it under Edward III. William Wadham, as appears by an ancient pedigree in the family of the Fogge's, lived in the reigns of Henry IV. V. and VI. whose daughter and heir carried this manor in marriage, under Edward IV. to Sir William Fogge, and he left it to his son, Sir John, of Repton. The latter, dying in the year 1490, devised it to his son, Sir Thomas, after which it was alienated to Ralph Banister, and from that name, before the reign of Elizabeth, this estate passed by sale to the Tucker's. One of their descendants sold it to the Omested's, when it passed to William Smith, and then to Dr. Martin Fotherbye. We next find the estate vested in William Kingsley, esq. of Canterbury, in whose descendants it remained down to Charles Kingsley, esq. of Lymington, and he, dying in 1786, devised it to his infant son. A court-baron is held for this manor.

There was a family of the name of Omer, called also Homer, which had constantly resided in this parish, their mansion having

been situated in Staple-street, for upwards of 400 years, as appears by old court rolls and other evidences. The last who resided here was Laurence Omer, gent. who departed this life about the year 1661, leaving an only son, Charles, who died unmarried. Their burial-place was in the churchyard, and two of their tombs remain, one of which is much adorned with sculpture, the name of Omer being now scarcely legible.

The church, which is exempt from the jurisdiction of the archdeacon, is dedicated to St. James, and consists of two aisles, and the same number of chancels. In the north aisle is a vault for the family of the Terry's; the font is octagon, of ancient stone, with emblematical carved figures. The north chancel belongs to the Groves's, having a circular roof, adorned with paintings; there is also a vault for the Lynch family, built by the dean of that name. Some good remains of stained glass are also left to decorate this structure. It was always considered as a chapel to the church of Adisham, as before mentioned, and is valued with the same in the king's books. In 1588 there were 148 communicants, and in 1640 the same number.

In 1821, there were seventy-three dwellings in the parish of Staple; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 241, females 226, making a total of 467 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF PRESTON

LIES southward from that of Blengate, before described, AND CONTAINS WITHIN ITS BOUNDARIES *the parishes of* ELMSTONE and PRESTON, together with their churches. *One constable* holds jurisdiction over this district.

ELMSTONE is the next parish south-eastward from Stourmouth, called in Domesday *Ælvetone*, and in other records *Elmerstone*. This parish contains only one borough, namely Elmstone borough, the borsholder of which is chosen at the court-leet of the manor of Preston yearly.

This district is very circumscribed, and occupies a retired situation, having no village. The stream that waters this parish, rises in a pond, and separates the parishes of Elmstone and Preston, whence it runs by the parsonage, towards the Stour, north-eastward. The court lodge stands on the south side of the parish, being moated, and supplied by a spring that rises above it, the water running hence towards the river. Contiguous is the church, on the knoll of a hill; the soil being very heathy, and resembling common land: the parish of Wingham stretching within one field of the church. No fair is held here.

THE MANOR OF ELMSTONE was part of the possessions of St. Augustine's monastery, of which institution it was held by one Ansfrid, being entered as such in Domesday record. It was afterwards possessed by the eminent family of the Leyborne's, one of whom, named Roger, held it of the abbot under Henry III. In that line it continued till Juliana, the *Infanta of Kent*, died holding this property under Edward III. when, in default of heirs, it devolved to the crown. By Richard II. it was subsequently settled on the priory of canons, otherwise Chiltern Langley, in Hertfordshire, where it remained until the dissolution, when it was granted by Henry VIII. to Richard, suffragan bishop of Dover. This property again devolving to

the crown, owing to the promotion of that prelate, the same monarch then granted it to Walter Hendley, esq. his attorney general, to hold *in capite* by knight's service, being then of the value of £50 per annum.

He, dying under Edward VI. left three daughters, who joined in the sale of this estate to Simon Lynch, of Grove, in Staple, who alienated this manor, under Queen Elizabeth, to the Gibbs's, of Devonshire extraction, who had settled at Folkstone under Henry VII. A descendant of that line, at the close of the reign of Charles I. passed this property to Robert Jacques, alderman of London, who died possessing the same in 1671. By his two daughters, Joane and Rebecca, this estate being divided, the latter had part of the demesne lands of the manor in this parish, &c. but the manor of Elmstone was allotted to the former, who entitled her husband, Henry Partridge, to the same. In his descendants it remained to Henry Partridge, esq. recorder of Lyn Regis, in Norfolk, who died in 1793, when it devolved to his son. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Elmstone is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Bridge. The church is a small structure, containing a body and a north aisle, with a chancel, having a square tower, embattled at the north-west corner. In the chapel is a monument with a marble bust, in memory of Robert Jaques, esq. and another commemorative of Elizabeth Hutchesson, who died in 1768. Here are also memorials to the Whitfield's of Canterbury, who resided at Preston; and, in the churchyard, mementos of the Gibbs's, of this parish and Preston.

This church is a rectory, the advowson being appendant to the manor of Elmstone. It is valued in the king's books at £6 7 8½, the yearly tenths 12s. 9½d. In 1588 the valuation was £40, communicants thirty-eight; and in 1640 the estimate was £80, communicants forty. The certified amount is now £69 2 2.

In 1821, there were seventy-nine dwellings in the parish of Elmstone; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 255, females 249, making a total of 504 souls.

Preston, the next parish westward from Elmstone, is written in Domesday *Prestetune*, usually called Preston near Wingham, and in old deeds styled East Preston, to distinguish it from another parish of the same name near Faversham. This parish contains three boroughs, namely, Inborough, Blackinborough, and Santonborough.

This parish is small, standing on high ground, the fields being large, and even, level ground, the greater part fertile. The village, called Preston street, is in the upland part, not unpleasantly situated, on either side of the road, which is very broad from Grove ferry to Wingham. The church stands a quarter of a mile distant, near which is the court lodge, well watered by a spring supplying several ponds, the largest of which runs through the marshes, towards the river. Below the court lodge the hill descends to the marshes, 200 acres of which are in this parish. The other, or eastern part, wherein the house stands, inhabited by the vicar, is separated from Elmstone by a stream which flows towards the river; in this part of the district is a residence called Santon. No fair is held here.

The Manor of Preston was part of the possessions of St. Augustine's monastery, being so entered in the survey of Domesday. Soon after it was demised by the abbot in feefarm to the Capel's, but at what period is not ascertained. It next passed to the Leyborne's under Henry III. William of that name having procured the grant of a market under Edward I. His daughter Juliana, *Infanta of Kent*, whose three husbands successively possessed this property, dying a widow under Edward III. without heirs, the estate devolved to the crown, and so continued till granted by Richard II. to Sir Simon de Burley, who procured the grant of another market, and an annual fair on the feast of St. Mildred. Being afterwards attainted, and, losing his head, this manor again passed to the crown, when the above monarch settled it on the priory of canons, otherwise Chiltern Langley, in Hertfordshire. It so remained until the dissolution, when Henry VIII. granted the same to Richard, bishop of Dover, who being promoted to an ecclesiastical benefice, it reverted back to the crown, when the same prince granted it to Sir Thomas Moyle to hold *in capite*. His youngest daughter, Anne, or Amy, then conveyed this estate in marriage to Sir Thomas Kempe, of

Olantigh, who died possessing it in 1607. His second daughter, Anne, then entitled her husband, Sir Thomas Chicbely, of Wimple, in Cambridgeshire, to this manor, as part of her inheritance. By his son it was alienated under Charles I. to Mr. Spence, of Bawkham, in Sussex, in whose descendants it remained till 1769, when it went by sale to Nathaniel Elgar, gent. of Sandwich. He dying in 1796, and his property falling to his nieces, this manor became vested in S. Toomor, esq. who had espoused one of them. A court-leet and court-baron is held for the hundred and manor of Preston.

This parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Bridge. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is small, and contains three aisles, a lofty chancel, and another to the north, having a low pointed steeple at the west end. It is very neat, and the whole covered by a ceiling. There are mementos to the Hougham's, one to Henry Waddell, vicar, who died in 1729, and another to Peter Valvaine, vicar of Preston, who died in 1767. Some remnants of stained glass remain in the windows of the north chancel, wherein a school was formerly held for teaching poor children to read and write.

This church was, in ancient times, appendant to the manor of Preston, and so continued in 1206, when, as already observed, the manor was confirmed in feefarm by the abbot of St. Augustine's to John Capel, to hold in inheritance to him and his heirs, out of which grant the patronage of this church was excepted to the abbot and his successors.

In 1258, under Henry III. this church was appropriated to the above abbey, under a proviso that a certain portion of the revenue should be assigned to the vicar. In this state the rectory appropriate continued until the dissolution, when it was settled by Henry VIII. on his newly created dean and chapter of Canterbury.

This vicarage is valued at £9 15 0, being now a discharged living of the yearly value of £28. In 1588 there were 166 communicants, and in 1640 the estimate was £40, communicants 196.

The vicarage house having been destroyed by fire, Robert Wyborne, gent. of this parish, to supply its place, in 1711 be-

queathed his dwelling-house, and thirty-two acres of land adjoining, to the vicar and his successors, on condition that they should reside therein, and perform divine service twice every sabbath-day, whereby this vicarage is now worth upwards of £100 a year.

In 1821, there were seventy-nine dwellings in the parish of Preston; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 255, females 249, making a total of 504 souls.

THE LATH OF SHIPWAY

Is the next eastward from that of SCRAY, sometimes, though corruptly, spelt *Shepway*, and called in Domesday *Limowart* and *Linmuartlest*. It is entirely within the division of *East Kent*.

This district contains within its bounds the following hundreds; FELBOROUGH; WYE; CALEHILL; CHART AND LONGBRIDGE; LONINGBOROUGH; FOLKESTONE; HEANE; STOWTING; BIRCHOLT FRANCHISE; STREET; WORTH; NEWCHURCH; HAM; ALOESBRIDGE; ST. MARTIN'S POUNTNEY; LANGPORT; AND OXNEY. Likewise the *corporations of* ROMNEY MARSH; FOLKESTONE; LYDD; NEW ROMNEY; AND HYTHE.

THE FOUR HUNDREDS OF FELBOROUGH, WYE, CALEHILL, together with CHART and LONGBRIDGE, with the *Township of Ashford*, were once considered as forming part of the *Lath of Scray*, but they have been long since separated, and appropriated to this *lath*. *The neutral hundred of Bircholt Barony*, so called in old records, from being exempt from any lath whatever, and surrounded by those parishes which are included in this lath, are given with those that lay adjoining to the same.

THE HUNDRED OF FELBOROUGH,

Written in Domesday *Feleberge* and *Ferleberge*, joins FAVERSHAM hundred to the eastward, and contains within its bounds THE PARISHES OF CHILHAM; MOLASH; CHARTHAM; GODMERSHAM; *and part of* CHALLOCK; with the churches of those parishes. *Two constables* claim jurisdiction over this district.

CHILHAM lies upon the river Stour, about six miles south of *Canterbury*, called in Domesday *Cilleham*; in Saxon *Cyleham*,

which signifies the cold place; while some writers believe it was anciently denominated *Julham*, or *Juliham*, that is, the dwelling or village of Julius, as appertaining to Julius Cæsar, who had several conflicts with the Britons at and near this spot. THIS PARISH is pleasantly situated in a fine healthy part of the county, being nine miles from Ashford; the high road passing through it, and a little below runs the river Stour; upon an eminence above which is the well-known mound of earth, generally called *Julliberrie's grave*. On an hill, adjoining the west side of the road, is the village, built round a small forstal, having the church and vicarage to the north, and the ancient castle, with the stately mansion and park of Chilham, on the opposite side. From this spot there is a beautiful view over the spacious vale of Ashford, through which the Stour directs its course; the valley comprehending a most enchanting prospect, diversified by seats, parks, towns, and churches, and bounded by the majestic tower of Ashford church in front; the fine down hills, clothed with foliage, on one side, together with the extensive range of Wye and Braborne downs, forming on the whole a most luxuriant landscape. The parish is nearly circular, and between three and four miles across, the ground being unequal and the soil chalky; there is, however, some coppice wood in the south-west part, towards Molash, where it becomes a bold and romantic country. About a mile northward from Chilham church is the common or heath, called Old Wives Lees; near which is Lower Emsin, adjoining Blean woods.

THE MANOR OF SELGRAVE, IN FAVERSHAM, having fallen to Sir Dudley Digges by escheat, and purchased also by him of the heir of Sir Christopher Cleve, he, by a codicil to his will, in 1638, devised it to *charitable purposes*, ordering that it might be let to some tenant who should pay over and above the quit-rents £20 per annum; when, upon the raising that sum, the lord of Faversham, or, in his absence, the mayor, with the advice of four of the jurats, and the lord of Chilham, with the advice of four of the best freeholders, should select two young men and two young maidens, between the ages of sixteen and twenty-four, and that they should, on the 19th of May yearly, run a tye at Chilham, when the young man and maiden who should prevail were to be entitled each to £10. This running is still kept up, several young men and women regularly running at Old

Wives Lees, on the 1st of May, and several others at Sheldwich Lees; on which occasions, those who win at either place receive the above sum. The late Mr. Heron, lord of Chilham, endeavoured to put a stop to this diversion, but found it was not in his power.

Camden states, it was the established opinion of the inhabitants, that Julius Cæsar encamped here in his second expedition against the Britons, and that from him it acquired the name of *Julham*, that is, Julius's station or house; as believing this to be the place where Cæsar, in his Commentaries, says, that having marched about twelve miles, he discovered the Britons, who were advanced to the banks of a river, and began, from a rising ground, to oppose the Romans, but being repulsed, retired to a fortified place. Camden, therefore, appears to have laboured under an error, as this spot is sixteen miles in a direct line from Deal, which, according to the Roman estimation, must have been nearly seventeen and a quarter, too great a difference, certainly, for Cæsar to have mistaken. It is more probable, that this was the situation where the Britons, the day after the attack, under the command of Cassivelaun, posted themselves and harassed the Roman cavalry, as well as their foragers, under Trebonius. If their post for that purpose was here, the exact spot must have been at Shillingheld wood, there being still large and extensive remains of strong fortifications and intrenchments where the Romans afterwards, from the works already raised there, and the eligibility of its situation, placed one of their *castra stativa*, or more lasting encampments; and very probably the site where the ancient castle of Chilham stands might have served as an exploratory fort.

In the conflict alluded to between the Romans and Britons, Quintus Laberius Durus, the tribune, was slain, and is believed to have been buried under the long barrow of earth upon the chalk hill, on the south-east side of the river, now vulgarly called *Julliberries Grave*, supposed to have derived its name from him, and to be a corruption from the words *Jul. Laber.* or *Julii Laberius*, that is, the grave of *Julius's tribune, Laberius*. It is, from north to south, 148 feet, and in breadth forty-five feet. Heneage earl Winchelsea, a nobleman well versed in antiquities, made researches in this barrow, but found nothing to designate its origin, whether Roman or Saxon, or if appertaining to

Laberius or *Cilla*, from whom this village is by some supposed to have taken its name.

The present keep or castle of Chilham does not bear the least remains of Roman antiquity visible in or about it. The construction of the whole is plainly Norman, and composed of flint, chalk, and a great deal of ashlar and caen stone, mixed together. It is of an octagon form, with a square building on the east side, wherein is a circular wooden staircase; the structure, containing three stories, the uppermost of which seems to have possessed the grandest apartments. There are no doorways, arches, windows, or pillars, left to enable the observer to form an idea of the architectural style, the ivy whereby it is covered, and the modern uses to which it has been placed, having disguised and altered every vestige of its pristine antiquity. It contained two wells, one now filled with rubbish, and the other used for the supply of the mansion. The whole area, within the ditches, comprises eight acres, being of an oval shape. The keep or castle stands close to the north-west side; upon an eminence below which the ditch is very deep, and the side nearly perpendicular. From the summit of the castle there is an extensive view of the surrounding country for many miles, except towards the south-west, where the adjoining hills rise much above it.

Chilham was very eminent in the earliest times, and, from its situation, was most probably, at the period of the Britons, fortified and held by them as a place of strength against the Romans, with whom they had several encounters in and near it. When that nation had gained a more permanent settlement in this island, it was more strongly fortified by them, and made use of as one of their *castra stativa*, or lasting encampments, many Roman remains having been from time to time discovered on the spot where the castle now stands, as well as the appearance of a very ancient building beneath the existing walls. Upon the pulling down the old mansion by Sir Dudley Digges, and laying the foundation for the present house, the basis of a much more ancient building was discovered, many Roman vessels being also found at a considerable depth. After the latter people had deserted Britain, the Saxon chiefs seem to have kept possession of this fortress, having to all appearance had a castle near the site of the present mansion.

Under the heptarchy, Widred king of Kent, who reigned at the latter end of the seventh century, resided here, and made it a place of great strength and defence. Bede says, that the *villæ regiæ* of the Saxons were mostly fixed upon, or near, the places which the Romans had previously made their stations and principal fortified encampments. Historians having made little mention of the several princes who reigned, there is no particular account of this structure till the invasion of the Danes, who, during one of their incursions, either in 838 or 851, (in both of which years they took and plundered the city of Canterbury,) sacked and demolished this castle, which seems from that period to have remained desolate. At the time of the Conqueror, the site and domains belonging to this property appear by the record of Domesday to have been, under Edward the Confessor, in the possession of Sired de Cilleham, a noble Saxon, who had large possessions in different parts of this county, but having fought on the side of Harold at the battle of Hastings, he forfeited this estate to the Conqueror. By the latter it was soon afterwards granted to his half brother, Odo, bishop of Bayeux, under the general title of whose lands it was entered in Domesday.

Four years after, on that prelates disgrace, Chilham, with his other possessions, became forfeited to the crown, when this estate was immediately granted to Fulbert, and held of the king *in capite* by barony, the tenant being bound to maintain a certain number of soldiers for the defence of Dover castle; upon which account he took the name of De Dover, making Chilham his *caput baroniæ*, or chief seat of this barony, thence called the *honour of Chilham*, which word, in ancient times, signified the lordship or fee. He died in the reign of Henry I. when his descendant, Robert, before the 6th year of King John, possessed this castle and honour, and was succeeded by his daughter and heir, Roese, during whose time that king resided at Chilham castle, in order to treat concerning a reconciliation with Archbishop Langton. She married, first, Richard, son of Roger de Chilham; secondly, Richard le Fitzroy, natural son of King John; and lastly, William de Wilton; and at her death, under Henry III. she was found to die possessed of the manors of Chilham, Northwood, Kingston, and Rudelingweald, all appertaining to the barony of Chilham. Richard de Dover, her son, dying, John, earl of Asceles, or Athol, in Scotland, son of his

sister by David de Strabolgie, earl of Athol, was found to be his heir; but, in the reign of Edward I., having been guilty of several acts of high treason, he was hanged, and his lands confiscated to the crown. This castle and manor so remained till the reign of Edward II., who granted the fee of the same, together with the hundred of Felcbergh, to Bartholomew de Badlesmere, who, from his immense possessions, was styled the rich Lord Badlesmere of Leeds. In the 15th year of that reign, however, having joined with the discontented barons, and refusing Queen Isabel entrance into his castle of Leeds, his lands were seized, and being soon after taken, he was executed for treason. The king, to reward the eminent services of David de Strabolgie, son of the above earl of Athol, then granted him the castle, manor, and honour, of Chilham, for his life, as part of the possessions of his grandmother. He died under Edward III. when they again reverted to the crown, and so remained till the reign of Henry VIII. who granted these manors to Thomas lord Roos, afterwards created earl of Rutland. He in that reign again conveyed this property to the crown, with all its rights and appurtenances, which the king granted to Sir Thomas Cheney, treasurer of his household, and warden of the Cinque Ports, which grant was confirmed by Edward VI. to him and his heirs. He resided here during the former reign, and added much to the grandeur of the building, but subsequently preferring his manor of Shurland, in the Isle of Sheppey, he pulled down the greatest part of this mansion, and removed the materials to Shurland. Leland says, that in 1552, the buildings at Chilham were not only extremely commodious and magnificent, but strong for defence and resistance, and continued so till the materials were removed to Shurland. His son, Henry, afterwards lord Cheney, of Tuddington, under Elizabeth, levied a fine of all his lands and sold this castle and manor to Sir Thomas Kempe, of Wye, whose son, of the same name, of Olantigh, left four daughters, who carried their shares in marriage to their respective husbands; when Mary, married to Sir Dudley Digges, inherited the whole, having purchased the other shares. Sir Dudley then pulled down the ancient mansion of Chilham, and, on an entire new foundation, began to erect the present magnificent structure, which seems to have been finished about the year 1616. He was descended from Roger de Mildenhall, *dictus* Digges, living in

the reign of King John, whose son, John Digges, inherited under King Henry III. and Edward I., and having founded the house of the Friars Minors, in Canterbury, that family lies buried there. James Digges, his descendant, marrying two wives, his issue by his first succeeded to the family possessions and seat of Digges court, in Barham, under the description of which a further account may be seen. By his second wife he had a son, named Leonard, the famous mathematician, whose grandson, the above Sir Dudley, succeeded in possessing this property. In the 1st year of James I. he levied a fine of the *barony of Fobert*, otherwise called the *honour and castle of Chilham*, with the manors of Chilham, Herst, and Juvenis, otherwise Young. He died in 1687, leaving several children, of whom Sir Maurice Digges, the eldest, was created a baronet in 1665. He died in his father's lifetime, as did the other sons, excepting Leonard, the youngest, who remained, at his father's death, the only surviving heir, and afterwards resided at Chilham castle, of which he died possessed in 1717. One of his descendants passed this estate to Mr. James Colebrooke, of London, who leaving three sons, Robert, the eldest, succeeded him here, and resided at Chilham castle, which, together with other estates, he alienated to Thomas Heron, esq. of Newcastle-upon-Trent. Mr. Heron, a descendant, afterwards resided at Chilham castle, to which he made considerable improvements, and in 1792, conveyed this seat, with the estate, to Thomas Wildman, esq., and he afterwards resided at Chilham castle. A court-leet and court-baron is held for the manor of Chilham; the royalty on the river Stour extending from Shalmsford bridge to the bounds of Godmersham parish.

The Manor of Youngs, called, in ancient Latin, *Juvenis*, or *Young*, is situated about a mile southward from the church, and was part of those lands granted to Fulbert de Dover for the defence of Dover castle. Of him this manor was again held by knight's service by owners who appear to have conferred this name upon it, as William Juvenis, or Young, held it by the above tenure, as did his descendant, Richard Juvenis, in the reign of King John. Upon this name becoming extinct, the manor passed into the possession of the Evering's, one of whom, Thomas, held it in the reign of Edward III.; soon after which, the family of Beverly, seated first at Harbledown, and afterwards

at Fordwich, became its owners. This manor remained in the latter name till the reign of Philip and Mary, when George alienated it to Robert Barley; in whose descendants it continued till the reign of Elizabeth, when it was sold to the Fleet's, who passed it to the Shepheard's; a descendant of which line, in 1638, left two daughters, who became entitled to this property in undivided moieties. They joined in the sale of the same to Anthony Hammond, esq. of St. Alban's, who married Anne, a daughter of Sir Dudley Digges, when it subsequently became the property of Thomas Wildman, esq. of Chilham castle.

Herst is a manor situated on the south-east side of the Ashford road, adjoining the manors of Esture and Godmersham. It was held of Fulbert de Dover by a family which thence derived its appellation. John de Herste held this manor of King John, as did his descendant, Hamo de Herste, in the reign of Edward II.; and in the 20th year of Edward III. on the aid then levied, the heirs of John de Herste were charged for it as being held by knight's service, as of the castle of Chilham. How long this name continued here we cannot find, but the next owners mentioned were the Darell's, for, under Henry VIII. Thomas Darell, of Scotney, held this manor of the honour of Chilham. His son, Thomas, alienated it to Philip Chute, esq., whose son, Thomas, in the reign of Elizabeth, passed the same to Thomas Kempe, of Wye. He likewise purchased the honour and castle of Chilham; since which the manor of Herste has continued in the same succession of ownership down to Thomas Wildman, esq.

There was a small turret in Dover castle adjoining Caldercott's tower, which the proprietors of this manor were obliged to defend and keep in good repair.

Esture, vulgarly called *Estower* and *Estuart*, so named from being situated on the Stour, or Sture, is a manor in the southern part of this parish, adjoining Godmersham, being another portion of those lands given to Fulbert de Dover, constituting part of his barony of Chilham, or Fobert, as afterwards called from him, of which it was held by knight's service by a family so called. Under John it was so possessed, by Stephen de Esture, as well as by John, who flourished here in the reigns of Henry III. and Edward I., when the latter leaving an only daughter and heir, she carried this estate in marriage to Thomas

de Valoyns, who, in right of his wife, paid aid for it in the 20th of Edward III. being held as of his castle of Chilham. It then passed to the Apulderfield's, of Otterpley, in Challock, and so continued till, by Isabel, a female heir, it went in marriage to John Idelegh, whose descendant, William, leaving an only daughter, Agnes, she entitled her husband, Christopher Ellenden, of Seasalter, and Bleane, to the same. From the latter, this manor descended to Thomas Ellenden, whose daughter Mary, under Henry VIII. espousing Edward Thwayts, he in her right became entitled to this property, who had his lands disgavelled in the 31st of the above reign, by an Act passed for that purpose. His grandson, Thomas, under Edward VI. sold this manor to George Moreton, esq. who resided here, leaving three sons, when Sir Robert, the eldest, possessed this manor, and lived here. By Anne, his wife, daughter of Sir Henry Finch, and sister of John lord Fordwich, he had two sons, George and Albert, and a daughter, Mary, all of whom died. Sir Robert Moreton, of Esture, above mentioned, dying in 1637, was succeeded by his son, George, who, about the year 1642, alienated this manor to Sir Nathaniel Finch, sergeant to Queen Henrietta Maria. He was succeeded by his kinsman, John lord Finch, baron of Fordwich, who died in 1661, leaving his widow Mabella, who became possessor for life of this manor, being daughter of Sir Charles Fotherbye, dean of Canterbury. Upon her demise, in 1669, this property devolved by the will of Lord Finch, to his niece Anne lady Morgan, on whose death it went, by his entail of the same, to his niece Elizabeth, wife of Sir Thomas Modyford, who in her right possessed this estate. On the demise of the latter, in 1692, it passed to his son, and on his death, by the limitations in Lord Finch's will, became vested in Anne Modyford, Mary and Richard Oldfield, and William and Charles Bowles, who in 1734 alienated the property to Thomas May, esq. of Godmersham, who took the name of Knight, and died holding this manor in 1781. His only son, Thomas, in 1794, and his widow, Mrs. Catherine Knight, of the White Friars, in Canterbury, then became entitled to this estate.

Old Wives Lees is a manor situated south of the Lees, a mile eastward from the church, and is now usually called *Oldslees*, whereas its ancient name was *Oldwoodslees*, being so denominated from a family of that name, which continued owners

of this property until the reign of Henry VI. At the above period the daughter and heir of John Oldwood carried this estate in marriage to the Payne's, in which line it remained to William Payne, who resided here, and dying in 1594, was buried in this church. He leaving four daughters, this manor was apportioned off to Mary, the eldest, (as having been the seat of her father,) who had espoused Mr. Thomas Cobbe, of Lymne, and he, in her right, held this property, and resided here.

By Thomas Cobbe, their descendant, this estate was alienated at the commencement of the 18th century, to Thomas Belke, D.D. who died holding this manor in 1712, having, by will, devised the same to his niece, Mary. She, in 1713, marrying Mr. Bryan Bentham, of Chatham, his eldest son, Edward, became possessor of this property, who in 1772 sold the same to John Garlin Hatch, of Deal, and he, four years after, alienated the manor to Thomas Heron, esq. of Chilham castle, who again sold the estate to Thomas Wildman, esq.

DINGLEY, otherwise BORELAND, is a small manor situated in *the borough of Boreland,* the house lying three quarters of a mile north-east from the church, which, under Henry VIII. was held by Sir Matthew Brown, whose son, Sir Anthony, also possessed it in the 30th of the same reign. On that name becoming extinct here, this property was held by the Austen's, when Matthew, one of that line, died holding it in 1640. It then devolved to Thomas Austen, who, in 1681, alienated the estate to Sir John Fagg, bart. at whose death it passed to his second son, Charles, whose great grandson, the Rev. Sir John Fagg, bart. of Chartham, ultimately held this manor.

ENSINGE, otherwise *Lower Ensinge,* is a small manor situated within the borough of Northerne, the house standing a mile and a quarter north-east from the church, having been formerly held by a family of the name of Ensinge. Robert, a descendant of that line, under Henry VIII. held this estate by knight's service of the manor of Chilham, subsequent to which it passed to the family of the Petit's, and so continued till 1640, when it was divided into moieties, one of which remained in the latter name, whence it passed to one Belke, and in that line continued until Anne Belke, widow, at her death in 1734, devised her interest in the same to her relative, Mrs. Elizabeth Master, widow. She, in 1744, purchased of Mr. Richard Grant the other moiety of

this estate, and thus became possessor of the entire fee of the same, and dying in 1759, devised this manor to Sir Henry Oxenden, bart.

SHILLINGHELD is another manor, situated one mile north-westward from the church, adjoining Selling, having been once of some note, though now sunk into obscurity. The mansion, whereof no traces are remaining, stood in the wood, still known by the name of *Shillingheld wood*, constituting part of the farm called *Stone Style*, in Selling. In this wood are still apparent, among various intrenchments, evident marks of large buildings having once occupied the site.

This district constituted part of those lands granted to Fulbert de Dover, for the defence of Dover castle, being part of his barony of Chilham, of which it was held by knight's service, by owners thence deriving their name. John de Shyllyngheld owned it under King John, as did his descendant, Guido, in the reign of Edward II. It then passed to the Clerke's, and afterwards to Edmund Mortimer, earl of March, who died possessing this estate under Richard II. His grandsons, Edmund and Roger, dying, Richard, duke of York, son of his sister, Anne, became his next heir, and succeeded accordingly, who, being slain at the battle of Wakefield, fighting against the Lancastrians, no inquisition after his death was taken, owing to the confusion which then reigned, until the 3d of Edward IV. when that monarch was found to be his eldest son and next heir. About the middle of the latter reign, Cicely, duchess of York, widow of Richard, and mother of the king, came into possession of this manor, holding the same at her demise under Henry VII. when it continued vested in the crown, till granted, by Henry VIII., to Thomas Hawkins, esq. of Boughton, in which name it remained, together with the adjacent farm of *Stone Style*, in Selling.

DANE, commonly called *Dane Court*, is situated three quarters of a mile westward from Chilham church, and was anciently the patrimony of John de Garwinton, of Welle, in Littleborne, who held it under Edward I. and II. William, his great grandchild, dying under Henry IV. his cousin, Joane, being his next of kin, having espoused Richard Haut, he, in her right, became entitled to this estate. His son, Richard, who lived under Henry VII. leaving an only daughter, Margery, she in marriage carried the property to William Isaak, whose descendant, Edward,

under Queen Elizabeth, alienated this manor to Mr. Edward Hales, of Tenterden, who rebuilt the mansion in 1580, where he resided, and, dying six years after, was buried in this church. His son, Edward, died in 1634, leaving his four sons, Edward, Thomas, James, and John, his coheirs in gavelkind, who the year after conveyed this manor to Robert Dixon, of Chilham, and he, in 1650, conveyed the same to Robert Sprakeling, gent. of Boughton Aluph. In his descendants it continued down to Robert Sprakeling, gent. who, in 1743, alienated this property to James Colebrooke, esq. of Chilham castle, after which it passed, with the honour of Chilham, to Thomas Heron, esq. who ultimately sold the manor to Thomas Wildman.

Denne is a manor at the north-west extremity of this parish, having had the same owners in ancient times as that last described, and so continued till Robert Dixon alienated the property to the Clement's, whose descendant, Richard, devised this manor by his will, in 1736, to his daughter, Catherine, wife of Bryant Taylor, gent. At his death, in 1785, this property went by sale, under a decree of the court of chancery, to Cyprian Rondeau Bunce, gent. of Canterbury, who afterwards alienated the same to Mr. James Finch, of that city. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Chilham is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Bridge. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a handsome edifice, containing a body and two aisles, the whole covered with lead, and a high chancel with two chapels, that on the south side being dedicated to St. Anne; a chantry also existed on the north side, which is now pulled down, and a transept, the whole being covered by tiles. At the west end is a tower steeple, with a beacon turret at one corner, having formerly had a small spire. The steeple was erected about the year 1534, as appears by a legacy bequeathed towards defraying the expense of completing the same. In this structure there are memorials for the Digges's, the Fogge's, the Cumberland's, the Payne's, the Cobbes', the Belkes', and the Bates'. In the north transept are mementos of the Masters', the Petit's, and the Spracklyn's; and in that to the south, tombs to the Dixon's. In the chapel, on the south side of the chancel, is the burial-vault erected by Sir Dudley Digges, wherein many of that family are buried; there is also a monument for his

lady, and another for himself, obt. 1638. On the north side, probably where the old chantry stood, is a circular mausoleum, having a cupola at the summit, which was built by the Colebrooke family for their use.

The church of Chilham was anciently appendant to the manor of Chilham; but as early as the reign of Stephen, was separated from the same, and possessed by William de Ipre, who, in 1153, gave it to the priory of Throwley, which grant was confirmed during that year by King Stephen.

Under Richard II. Chilham church was valued at £40, at which period it had become appropriated to the cell of the Benedictine abbey of St. Bertin, the capital of Artois, in Flanders, a vicarage being endowed therein.

It so continued until the suppression of alien priories, under Henry V. when that of Throwley became vested in the crown, and was, by Henry VI. settled on the monastery of Sion, which had been founded by his father. In that establishment this church, &c. continued till the suppression of monasteries, when Henry VIII. granted the rectory of Chilham, &c. to Sir Thomas Chene, whose only son and heir, Lord Cheney, of Tuddington, under Elizabeth, levied a fine of all his lands, and alienated a moiety of the parsonage of Chilham, &c. which subsequently became the property of the Rev. Sir John Fagg, bart. The great tithes of the chapel and parish of Molash seem to have been also alienated by Lord Cheney at the same period, but the remaining moiety of Chilham parsonage was alienated by him, together with the honour and castle, in the 10th of Elizabeth, to Sir Thomas Kempe, after which they passed to Thomas Wildman, esq. in manner which has been more fully mentioned before.

The vicarage of Chilham, with the chapel of Molash, is valued at £13 6 8, and the yearly tenths at £1 6 8. In 1578 the communicants amounted to 359, and in 1640 they were 377, the valuation being then £89. The estimate is now £200 per annum.

It has been mentioned that A CHANTRY existed on the north side of Chilham church. This was endowed with twenty-two acres of land, as appears by the roll in the augmentation-office. The chantry was dissolved in the first year of Edward VI. the last incumbent having been John Castelyn, who was living in 1553, having then a pension allowed him of £6.

In 1349 there was A CHAPEL in the castle of Chilham, called the free chapel of the blessed Virgin Mary, of which Margery Lady Roos, daughter of Bartholomew lord Badlesmere, and widow of William lord Roos, of Hamlake, was the patroness. Accordingly, in the above year, at her presentation, the see of Canterbury being then vacant, one Osbertus was admitted, by the prior and chapter of Christ church, personally to serve as perpetual chaplain therein.

In 1821, there were 185 dwellings in the parish of Chilham; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 540, females 485, making a total of 1025 souls.

MOLASH is the next parish westward from Chilham, being obscurely situated among the hills; little known, and scarcely any traffic being there carried on. The village is straggling, situated near the western boundary of this district, the parish of Wye being contiguous thereto. The church stands to the north of the village, the surrounding soil being covered by coppice wood, for the most part beech, having some oak interspersed; the country is hilly, and the soil poor, consisting of red earth, abounding in flint stones. A fair is held here, on the 16th of July, yearly, which formerly took place on the Monday after Sts. Peter and Paul.

THE HONOUR of Chilham claims *paramount* over this parish; *subordinate* to which is the MANOR OF BOWER, otherwise FLEMINGS, situated in the borough of Godsole, north of the church, having derived the latter appellation from the Fleming's, once possessors of this property. John of that name was anciently its owner; in whose descendants it continued for some time, but the line becoming extinct under Henry VI. this property was vested in John Trewonnalle, and in that family it continued to the reign of Henry VIII. By another of the name of John, this estate was alienated to Thomas Moyle, esq. in whose progeny it remained till the reign of James I. when it passed to Mr. Henry Chapman, one of whose descendants, Edward, leaving three sons, Edward, Thomas, and James, they possessed this estate, as his heirs in gavelkind, and joined in the sale thereof to Christopher Vane, lord Barnard. He dying in 1723, leaving

two sons, this property devolved, with his other estates in Kent, to his second son, William, created viscount Fane of the kingdom of Ireland. That nobleman dying in 1734, as did his only son and heir, William viscount Fane, in 1789, this manor, with the rest of his estates, was devised by him to David Papillon, esq. of Acrise.

Witherling is a manor, also, situated in the borough of Godsole, which, in the records of Dover castle, is mentioned among the estates that constituted the barony of Fobert, having been possessed by Fulbert de Dover, of whom mention has been so frequently made, and was held by knight's service by a family of the same name. Robert de Witherling possessed it under King John, in whose progeny it continued to the reign of Henry VI. when Joane, a female heir, conveyed it in marriage to William Keneworth, whose son, of the same name, passed this property away, under Henry VII. to John Moile, of Buckwell. His son, John, sold this manor, in the reign of Henry VIII. to Hamo Videan, descended from a family of note in this county; in whose name it continued till the reign of Charles II. when it went by a joint conveyance to Thomas Thatcher, whose daughter, Mary, carried it in marriage to Mr. Henry Bing, of Wickhambreaux. His son, John, sold it to Mr. Edward Baker, to complete the fortune of his sister, whom the latter had espoused; and on his dying intestate, this manor devolved to his four sons, Thomas, Edward, Henry, and Bing Baker, who, in 1771, alienated this estate to Thomas Knight, esq. of Godmersham. His only son, of the same name, dying in 1794, possessing this manor, devised the same to Edward Austen, esq. then of Rowling, who afterwards settled at Godmersham. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Chiles, otherwise Slow Court, is a small manor in this parish, which, some years ago, belonged to the family of the Goatley's, that line having been settled here since the time of Queen Mary. One of the name, Laurence, died possessed of this manor in 1608, who afterwards resided at another house in this parish, called Beedles, and Searles Goatley, the last of which race, was conveyed from Maidstone and buried here. Laurence of that name devised this estate to his third son, Laurence, one of whose descendants passed it to the Moter's; and in 1661, Alice Moter, of Bethersden, sold it to John Franklyn, gent. of

this parish, whose daughter took it in dower to Mr. Thomas Benson, of Maidstone. The latter, by fine and conveyance, then passed it to Robert Saunders, gent. of that town; after which, falling into the possession of Mrs. Esther Yates, her executors conveyed it to David Fuller, of Maidstone, when his widow, Mary, at her death, devised this manor to Stacy Coast, esq. of Sevenoke.

This parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Bridge. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is small, consisting of one aisle and a chancel; and contains several memorials to the Chapman's, while, in the aisle, is a stone inscribed *Pulvis Chapmanorum*, and beneath, a vault for that family. The font bears evident marks of remote antiquity. This church is esteemed only a chapel of ease to that of Chilham, and consequently is not separately rated in the king's books. In 1585 the communicants were 126; while in 1640 they only amounted to forty.

In 1821, there were forty-seven dwellings in the parish of Molash; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 215, females 163, making a total of 378 souls.

Chartham, called in Domesday *Certeham*, lies the next parish eastward from Chilham; the largest portion is in the hundred of *Felborough*, and a small part, viz. the manor of Horton, comprised in that of Bridge and Petham.

This parish is pleasantly situated, being mostly in a fertile vale of pastures, through which the river Stour takes its course, having passed amidst a range of lofty hills, over which this parish extends. The high road from Canterbury to Ashford leads through it, whence there is a most enchanting view; the whole parish being about twelve miles in circumference. The houses are mostly built round a green, having the church and parsonage on the south side; upon that plot was formerly a large mansion, which, being destroyed by fire, was afterwards called the *Burnt house*. It was originally possessed by the Kingsford's, several of whom lie buried in the church. William Kingsford, esq. in 1768, sold it to William Waller, esq. who alienated the property, in 1786, to Mr. Robert Turner; and in 1795, it was

passed to Mr. John Gold. Near the same is a modern-built house, formerly the property of John Maximilian Delaugle, rector of this parish, and prebendary of Canterbury. He died possessed of it in 1729, when it passed to John Wotton, esq. who, in 1798, left it to Mary, wife of Benjamin Andrews, gent. of Stouting. On the river Stour is a papermill, which once belonged to the dean and chapter of Canterbury, but has since passed into different ownerships. That part of the village on the opposite side of the river Stour, is called Rattington, being in the borough of that name. The northern district of this parish chiefly occupies high ground, and is covered with wood, extending nearly as far as the high Boughton road to London, through which the boundaries are very uncertain, having been much contested, on account of the payment of the tithes, as the lands within it are exempt from tithes, by belonging to the king's ancient forest of Bleane, now called the vill of Dunkirk. Among them are two hamlets, named Charthamhatch and Bovehatch, generally called Bowhatch.

Among the woods at the north-west boundaries of the parish, is a house and grounds, called the Fishponds, and, though now in a state of ruin, were formerly made and kept, at a great expense, by Samuel Parker, gent. This afterwards became the property of Mrs. Bridges, of Canterbury, and William Hammond, esq. of St. Alban's, in this county. About a mile from Densted, in the north-west part of the district, is a stream of water, called *the Cranburne*, being a very strong chalybeate, which rises near the London road, and falls into the Stour, near Whitehall, below Tonford.

On the opposite side of the valley, close to the Stour, is the hamlet of Shalmsford street, built on the Ashford high road, with a stone bridge of the same name, having five arches; at a small distance is an ancient cornmill, formerly belonging to the prior and convent of Christ church, and subsequently to the dean and chapter of Canterbury. There are two more hamlets on the southern hills, one at *Mystole*, the other at *Upperdowne*, behind which this parish reaches some distance among the woods, till it joins Godmersham and Petham. A fair is annually held a Chartham, on St. Peter's day, the 29th June.

On the downs, called *Chartham downs*, distant about four miles from Canterbury, are a considerable number of *tumuli*, or

barrows, being described in ancient deeds *Danes' banks*, several of which have at different times been opened, and the remains of bodies, with various articles of pottery and trinkets, have been found therein. Beyond these remnants of antiquity, on the contiguous plains called Swerdling downs, more southward, there are three or four lines of intrenchments, which cross the whole, from east to west, at different places, with a small intrenchment in the road, under Denge wood, a little eastward above Julliberrie's grave.

Various conjectures have been formed as to the origin of these barrows; some suppose them to have been those of the Britons slain in the decisive battle between Cæsar and Cassivelaun; others, that this place was the spot appropriated for the burial of the Roman garrison at Canterbury; while many believe them to have belonged to the Danes, who might have been opposed here in their attempts to pass the river Stour, in their farther progress into this island.

In the year 1668, on the sinking of a new well at Chartham, there were found, at about seventeen feet deep, a parcel of large bones, with four teeth, perfect and sound, petrified, each being as large as a man's fist; they are supposed to have been the bones of some large maritime animal, and that the long vale of twenty miles or more, through which the river Stour runs, was formerly an arm of the sea, the river, as it is supposed, being named Stour from *Æstuarium;* and that the sea, having by degrees filled up this vale with earth, sand, and ooze, ceased to discharge itself this way, when it broke through the isthmus between Dover and Calais. Others are of opinion, that they were the bones of elephants, abundance of which animals were brought over into Britain by the Emperor Claudius, who landed near Sandwich.

In the year 781, Duke Elfrid gave to Archbishop Ethelred and the monks of Christ church, the parish of Chartham, towards the cloathing of that fraternity, as appears by his charter or codicil. This gift was confirmed to them, anno 1052, by Edward the Confessor, and continued in their possession at the time of the taking the general survey of Domesday, anno 1084, being entered therein under the title of the lands of that monastery.

The possessions of the priory were afterwards augmented by Wibert, when he became prior, who, in 1153, restored the great

wood of Chartham, containing forty acres, which the tenants had long withheld. In the reign of Edward I. *this Manor of Chartham*, with its appurtenances, was valued at £34, at which time there appears to have been a *vineyard*, plentifully furnished with vines, belonging to the priory; and Archbishop Winchelsea, having fallen under the king's displeasure, dismissed most of his household, and lived privately here at Chartham with one or two priests.

The buildings on this manor were much augmented and repaired both by Prior Chillenden, anno 1400, and also by Prior Goldston, in 1500, and continued part of the possessions of this priory, till its dissolution, under Henry VIII. who then settled it on his new erected dean and chapter of Canterbury. A court-leet and court-baron are regularly held for this manor.

The *deanery* is a large ancient seat, adjoining the court lodge, being part of those possessions belonging to the priory of Christ church, in Canterbury, and was formerly the principal mansion of this manor, being a place of retirement for the prior himself. The Whitfield's were for some time lessees of this deanery, which was ultimately conveyed, in 1797, to William Gilbee, esq. There was a large chapel belonging to this mansion, which was taken down in 1572.

Densted is a manor situated among the woods, in the northern part of this parish, next to Harbledown, in the ville of its own name, part of which extends into that parish also. It anciently belonged to the family of the Crevequer's, and, in the reign of Henry III. was given by Hamo de Crevequer to the priory of Leeds, founded by one of his ancestors, which gift was confirmed, together with the tithes of Densted, to the priory at several different periods. The prior and convent continued owners of this manor, and, in the reign of Henry VIII. devised it, for ninety-nine years, to Paul Sidnor; in which state it remained till the general dissolution, when, devolving to the crown, with all the tenements, called Densted, Henry VIII. granted this manor to John Tufton, esq. to hold *in capite* by knight's service. He, under Edward VI. alienated his right to Richard Argall, whose descendant, John, in the reign of James I. sold it to John Collimore, of Canterbury, who, in 1620, conveyed it to trustees for the payment of his debts. They sold it to Thomas Steed, esq. who passed it to Sir Thomas Swan, of

Southfleet; in whose descendants it continued, till the widow of Sir William devised it, with his other estates, between his and her relations, one of whom marrying John Comyns, of Dagenham, in Essex, became in her right possessed of the same. In their descendants it continued until it was sold to Thomas Lane, a master in Chancery, when the fee became vested in Mr. William Lane, gent. of London.

A court-baron is held for this manor. The lands belonging to the same consisting of about 400 acres, the whole of which, excepting seven acres, in Highwood, that are titheable, are subject to a composition yearly to the rector of Chartham, in lieu of all tithes.

Howfield is a manor in this parish, lying in the north-east part of the same, adjoining *Toniford.* It was formerly spelt, in ancient records, both *Haghefelde* and *Hugeveld,* and was part of the possessions of the priory of St. Gregory, most probably at its foundation in 1084. In this state it remained till the reign of Henry VIII. when it was suppressed and granted by that king in fee, with all privileges, to Sir Christopher Hales. He left three daughters coheirs, and on a division of this manor, the same was assigned to Mary, the youngest, who carried it in marriage to Alexander Colepeper, esq. He leaving also an only daughter, she conveyed it to Sir John Colepeper, of Wigsell, who alienated this estate to the family of the Vanes, or Fanes; when, in the year 1638, Mary countess of Westmoreland, widow of Sir Francis Fane, joined with her son, Mildmay, in the sale of this estate, to William Man, esq. of Canterbury. In 1668, the latter conveyed the property to John Denew, gent. of Canterbury, whose ancestors were anciently written De New; and his grandson, dying in 1750, devised it by will to his wife, Elizabeth. She dying in 1761, it passed to one of her late husband's sisters, married to Mr. Edward Roberts, of Christ's hospital, London; after which, their eldest son, Robert, died possessed of the same in 1779, and leaving three sons, it devolved to his eldest, who sold it, in 1796, to George Gipps, esq. of Harbledown, M.P. for Canterbury.

Shalmsford Street is a hamlet in this parish, built on each side of the Ashford road, near the river Stour. It was anciently called *Essamelesford,* and, in the time of the Saxons, was the estate of one Alret, who seems to have lost the posses-

sion of it after the battle of Hastings, as the Conqueror gave it, among other possessions, to Odo bishop of Bayeux, under the general title of whose lands it was entered in Domesday. Four years after the disgrace of that ecclesiastic, this manor appears to have been separated into two ; one of which was called, from its situation, THE MANOR OF SHALMSFORD STREET, and subsequently, from its possessors, *the Mansion of Bolles,* a family which had large possessions at Chilham and the adjoining parishes. Upon this name becoming extinct, about the reign of Elizabeth, the manor devolved to the line of the Cracknal's ; and, in the reign of James I. to Michel, one of whose descendants married Nicholas Page, and the other, Thomas George, whose son, Edward, dying, the property passed to Mr. John George, of Canterbury.

On the opposite side of the road, near the bridge, stood an ancient seat, which was taken down many years ago, the windows of the old house having been decorated with several coats of arms. This seat, with the lands belonging to the same, was for a length of time owned by the Mantle's, and continued in that name till a female heir, Mary, carried it in marriage to Mr. Stephen Church, of Goodnestone.

THE MANOR OF SHALMSFORD BRIDGE was the other part of the bishop of Bayeux's estate, constituting that portion which ranked of the most eminent account, and was so called to distinguish it from that last mentioned. It was formerly accounted a member of the manor of *Throwley*, in this county, as appears by the inquisition taken after the death of Hamo de Gatton, owner of that manor, in the reign of Edward I. when Roger de Shamelsford was found to hold it as such of him by knight's service. His descendant, William, in the reign of Edward II. leaving an only daughter and heir, Anne ; she carried it in marriage to John Petit, who resided here, and died before the reign of Edward III. In his descendants this manor continued down to Thomas Petit, esq. of Canterbury, who died possessed of it in 1625, leaving his three sisters his coheirs, who became entitled to this manor in undivided thirds. By sale and heirship it finally became vested in Mr. Joseph Saddleton, who dying intestate in 1795, his widow and son possessed this manor.

MYSTOLE is a handsome well-built seat, situated on the

green of that name, in the south-west part of this parish, about a mile and a half from the church of Chartham. It was built by John Bungey, prebend of Canterbury, who was rector of this church, and married Margaret Parker, niece of the archbishop. He died in 1596, and was succeeded by his son, Jonas Bungey, in whose descendants it continued till sold to Sir John Fagge, of Weston, in Sussex. He left a numerous family, three of whom only survived, namely, Sir Robert, his successor to the title, Charles, and Thomas. Sir John dying in 1700, he, by will, devised this estate of Mystole to his second son, Charles Fagge, esq. of Canterbury, whose son resided here, and married Elizabeth, daughter of William Turner, esq. of the White Friars, Canterbury. His descendants continued to possess Mystole down to the Rev. Sir John Fagge, bart. who married, in 1789, Anne, daughter and heir of Daniel Newman, esq. of Canterbury, who resided here.

Horton Manor, sometimes written *Horton Parva,* to distinguish it from others of the same name in this county, lies in that part of this parish which is between the hundreds of Bridge and Petham, and has from the earliest times been esteemed as a portion of the parish of Chartham.

This manor was, at the survey of Domesday, part of the possessions of Odo bishop of Bayeux, upon whose disgrace it was confiscated to the crown, and thence granted to the family of the Crevequer's, of whom it was held by that of Northwood, in this county. In the descendants of that name it continued down to Roger de Northwood, when his widow entitled her second husband, Christopher Shuckborough, esq. of Warwickshire, to its possession, and she dying under Henry IV. he, three years afterwards, alienated this manor to Gregory Ballard. His descendant, Thomas, dying in 1465, Roger Ballard was found to hold, at his death, this manor of the king, as of his honour of the castle of Dover, by the service of one sparrowhawk yearly. At length it was held by Nicholas Ballard, who, in the reigns of Philip and Mary, passed it away to Roger Trollop, esq.; and he, under Queen Elizabeth, sold it to Sir Edward Warner, then lieutenant of the tower. His brother and heir, Robert, alienated the estate to Roger Manwood, when it afterwards passed to Christopher Toldervye, esq. who resided here, and dying in 1618, by the limitations of the will of his descendant, John, this

manor devolved to Jane, their eldest sister, then married to Sir Robert Darell, of Calehill; from whom it descended to Henry Darell, esq. of that place, who likewise resided at this estate.

The chapel belonging to this manor is still standing, and consists of one aisle and a chancel, with a thick wall at the west end, shaped like a pointed turret; this structure has, for a series of years, been disused as a chapel, and was built, like many others of the same kind, for the use of the family residing at the mansion. In the reign of Richard II. there was a great contest between John Beckford, rector of Chartham, and Christopher Shuckborough, lord of this manor, concerning the celebration of divine service in this chapel, which was heard and determined, in 1380, before the archbishop's official, when it was decided, that all divine rites might be performed here *exceptis tantum defunctorum sepulturis et exequiis*. There was a composition of £6 14 paid by the occupier of this manor to the rector of Chartham, in lieu of all tithes.

CHARTHAM is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Bridge. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is large and handsome, being built in the form of a cross, and contains one aisle and a chancel. Besides other monuments and memorials, there are some to the Kingsford's; and on the north side of the chancel, is a tomb, under a pointed arch; while, on the pavement, are two ancient brasses, one to the memory of ————, *in pontificalibus*, and the other, without inscription, presents the figure of a knight in hauberk, cross-legged, his feet resting on a lion, part of which is gone. In the north transept is a monument to the memory of Sir William Young and his lady, sculptured by Michael Rysbrack, in 1751. The font, which is plain and modern, bears the date 1720. The organ was erected in 1813 by the present Sir John Fagge, rector. The roof is ornamented with gothic roses, shields, and other devices; and the windows contain many remnants of stained glass, collected from the fragments of what formerly abounded here. There is also a monument for Dr. Delangle; and another, with the figure of a woman, having an inscription, for Jane Eveas, daughter of Lewys Clifforht, Squyre, obt. 1530.

Part of the parsonage house appears very ancient, the whole

ngraved by J.Pother

SAINT MARY'S CHURCH CHARTHAM.

KENT

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being built with ashlar stone, and the windows and doors in the Gothic taste.

This rectory was valued in the king's books at £41 5 10, the yearly tenths at £4 2 7. In 1640 the valuation was £120, and communicants 300.

In 1821, there were 137 dwellings in the parish of Chartham; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow : males 435, females 420, making a total of 855 souls.

GODMERSHAM is the next parish south-westward from Chartham, and is written in ancient records *Godmersham*, and in Domesday *Gomersham*. It lies in the beautiful Stour valley, a situation healthy and pleasant in the extreme, the river Stour gliding through it from Ashford in its course towards Canterbury. Godmersham house and park constitute the principal objects, the Ashford high road encircling the east side of the park, along which is a sunken fence, that affords an uninterrupted view of the whole, adding considerably to the beauty of the prospect; the church and vicarage standing at a small distance from the village, on the left side of the road. The meadows in the vale are very fertile, the hills on either side rising high; those westward being the sheepwalks belonging to Godmersham house, the summits of which are finely clothed with wood. The opposite acclivities are the high range of unenclosed pasture downs of Wye and Braborne, among which, in the eastern part of the parish, is the seat of Eggerton, in a wild and bleak country, consisting of barren lands and flints.

On the southern boundary, on the Ashford road, is the hamlet of Bilting, part of which is in Wye parish. A family of that name once resided here, as appears by their wills, as early as the year 1460. Richard Mocket, gent. of Challock, died in 1565, possessed of this manor of Bilting court, in Godmersham, which, by his will, he directed to be sold, when it ultimately devolved to the Carter's. Thomas of that name, of Bilting, second son of George, of Winchcombe, died possessed of this estate in 1707; after which it went to his nephew, Thomas Carter, gent. of Godmersham. He dying in 1744, left two daughters his coheirs; the eldest of whom marrying Mr. Nicholas

Rolfe, of Ashford, he became, in her right, possessed of her father's estate at Bilting. This property then passed to Mrs. Jane, the sister of the late Mr. Knight, and after her death, in 1793, to Thomas Monypenny, esq. who, in 1797, sold it to Mr. Richard Sutton. There is no fair, nor was there, at the period in question, any public-house in the parish. From the high road, above mentioned, which runs along the lower side of the western hills, there is a most pleasing view over the valley beneath, wherein the various beautiful diversified objects, both of nature and art, combine to render it altogether enchanting.

Beornulph, king of Mercia, in the year 822, gave Godmersham to Christ church, in Canterbury, for the use of the refectory, and clothing of the monks, at the request of Archbishop Wilfred.

In the reign of Edward I. the prior claimed a fair here on the day of St. Laurence, and, under Edward III. the prior obtained a charter of *free warren* for this manor. The priors of Canterbury frequently resided at the manor house here, which appears, from its present state, to have been a large mansion, suitable to their dignity. Over the porch, at the entrance of the house, are the effigies of a prior, curiously carved in stone, sitting, and richly habited, with his mitre and pall, bearing the crosier in his left hand, his right being elevated, in the act of benediction, having sandals on his feet. This manor so continued till the dissolution, under Henry VIII. who then granted Godmersham in exchange for other lands, to the dean and chapter of Canterbury, in pure and perpetual alms, at the yearly rent of £10 1 8, the same being then valued at £80 11 0; in exchange for which the latter gave the king seven valuable manors in this and other counties, a rapacious bargain, like most others entered into by that monarch. However, in the deed it is stated to have been made *through his most gracious favor*. This manor afterwards continued in their possession. A court-baron is regularly held here.

The Manors of Ford and Yallande were anciently part of the inheritance of the family of the Valoign's, one of whom, Robert, died possessed of the same, and other lands in this neighbourhood, under Edward II. In his descendants they continued till the latter end of the reign of Edward III. when Waretius, leaving two daughters, one of them entitled her hus-

band, Thomas de Aldon, to their possession, and in that name these manors continued for some time. They then passed to the Austen's, or Astyn's, and so continued till Richard so called, of West Peckham, conveyed them, with all the lands and tenements called Halton, in Godmersham, and other parishes, to Thomas Broadnax, of Hythe. He afterwards resided at Ford place, as did also his descendants, without intermission, to Thomas Broadnax, esq. who, in the reign of George I. anno 1727, changed his name to that of May. In 1732 he rebuilt this seat; and in 1738, pursuant to the will of Mrs. Elizabeth Knight, again changed his name to that of Knight, and in 1742 enclosed a park round his seat here, afterwards called *Ford Park*, which name it appears to have entirely lost, being now called *Godmersham* park. Thomas May Knight, esq. died here advanced in years, anno Dom. 1781, universally lamented as a public loss. He had married Jane, daughter and coheir of William Monk, esq. of Buckingham, in Sussex, by whom he left Thomas, his heir, and three daughters, who died unmarried. Thomas Knight, esq. succeeded his father in these estates, and married Catherine, daughter of Dr. Wadham Knatchbull, prebend of Durham, and died in 1794, leaving these lands to his widow for her life, with remainder to Edward Austen, esq. of Rolling place. She subsequently gave up Godmersham house and park to Edward Austen, esq. who afterwards resided there.

Eggarton is another manor, situated on the opposite side of the river, at the south-east boundary of this parish, among the hills, near Crundal, and was anciently the estate of the noble family of the Valence's, earls of Pembroke. Aymer de Valence held this manor at his death, in the reign of Edward II. when John, son of John de Hastings, by Isabel his wife, one of the earl's sisters, and John Comyn, the heir of Joan, another sister, were found to be his coheirs. Upon a division, John de Hastings seems to have possessed the whole, and died, leaving this estate to Joan, wife of David de Strabolgie, earl of Athol, and Elizabeth her sister, both heirs of John Comyn, of Badinagh, his next of kin. David de Strabolgie died possessed of this manor in the reign of Edward III. and by deed settled it on his kinsman, Sir Henry de Hills, which gift was confirmed by the countess, his widow. Gilbert de Hills lies buried in this church,

with his figure in armour on the grave-stone. He was of great eminence, and from him descended many worthy successors, who were proprietors of this manor till the reign of Elizabeth, when it was sold to Charles Scott, esq. eldest son of Sir Reginald Scott, of Scotts hall, his grandson. Thomas of that name, left a son Thomas, who died, and a daughter, who carried this manor in marriage to Mr. Daniel Gotherson, though not without several contests at law with some collateral claimants. He afterwards sold it to Sir James Rushaut, bart. who, dying in 1697, devised it by will to trustees, for the payment of his debts, when it was bought by Peter Golt, esq., of Sussex, whose descendant, Maximilian, resided at Eggarton, and dying in 1735, it passed, with the rest of his estates, to his three sisters, Elizabeth, Mary, and Sarah, and upon the death of the former, the two latter became entitled to the whole fee of this property, as copartners. Mrs. Sarah Golt usually resided at the mansion of Eggarton, and Mary Golt died in 1768, leaving her moiety to Henry Thomas Greening, gent. of Brentford in Middlesex, who afterwards assumed the name of Golt. Sarah, the other sister, died at Eggarton in 1772, and, by will, devised her moiety to the children of William Weston Hugesson, esq. of Provender, to be equally divided between them. Mr. Hugesson left three daughters, of whom the two surviving were married, to Sir Joseph Banks, and Sir Edward Knatchbull, who, in right of their wives, became entitled to one moiety of this manor. They afterwards, with Henry Thomas Golt, the possessor of the other moiety, joined in the sale of the whole, to Thomas Knight, of Godmersham, who purchased the estate for the residence of his sister, Jane, since deceased. He died in 1794, and gave this seat by will to Edward Austen, esq.

This parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Bridge. The church, dedicated to St. Laurence, is a plain building, consisting of a body and chancel. The latter is spacious and handsome, and anciently contained eight stalls. On the south side of the church there was formerly a chantry, dedicated to St. Mary, which was suppressed under Edward VI. This was, however, afterwards rebuilt, and used as two large pews, for the owners of the mansions of Ford and Eggarton, beneath which are vaults for the owners. In that of Eggarton, lie many of the Hill's, the

Scott's, and the Golt's; and in that of Ford, several of the family of the Broadnax's.

The church of Godmersham, with the chapel of Challock annexed, was anciently an appendage to the manor of Godmersham, and as such constituted part of the possessions of the priory of Christ church, in Canterbury, to which it was appropriated in the reign of Richard II. anno 1397. Previous to which, Archbishop Sudbury had, in 1330, endowed a vicarage here, which, with the chapel of Challock, was valued in the king's books at £9 3 9, the yearly tenths being 18s. 4½d. In 1640 there were 243 communicants, and its value was £50, and in 1649 the parsonage was estimated at £120 per annum.

In 1821, there were sixty-eight dwellings in the parish of Godmersham; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 204, females 210, making a total of 414 souls.

Challock lies the next parish, westward, from Godmersham, the chief part being in the lower half of the hundred of Felborough, and the residue in that of Wye. The manor of Godmersham claims over the former, in which the Lees, as well as the eastern and south-eastern parts of this parish are included, the liberty of Wye manor claiming over the remaining part in the latter hundred. There are two boroughs in this parish, viz. Pested and Challock.

This parish lies on high ground, in a healthy, though rather an unfrequented country. The soil is in general poor and barren, the upper part covered with flints, the rest being a stiff clay. In the middle of the parish is a large common, called Challock Lees, so named from the Saxon word *leswe*, which signifies a pasture, the same extending in two branches, nearly two miles in length. At the end of the Lees is the principal village, in which stands a good house, called the clock-house. In 1779 it was destroyed by lightning, but immediately after rebuilt. On the opposite side of the Lees is another hamlet of houses, called Lorenden's Forestal; and, on the sides of this parish, excepting the south, there are great quantities of coppice wood, particularly long beech wood, containing about 1100 acres. The church stands at the bottom of the hill, along

which are several large sandstones, about three quarters of a mile from the village adjoining Eastwell park, the largest portion of which is within this parish. The high turnpike road, from Faversham, through Sheldwick, to Ashford, crosses at this part; but, prior to the present trust being established, by Act of Parliament, the old road went still more southward to the park, but the last Lord Winchelsea procured an order to have it turned more northward, in order to prevent his farm from being cut through. At Black Forestal, in this parish, the ground is so elevated, that both the seas may be seen from it, viz. the mouth of the Thames, and the harbour before Rye.

William the Conqueror, on his foundation of the abbey of Battle, in Sussex, granted a fair to be held in this part of the parish, appertaining to the hundred of Wye, the profits and privileges whereof belonged to the abbey, till the suppression under Henry VIII. when, devolving to the crown, they were afterwards, from time to time, granted with the manor of Eastwell park.

Otterpley is a manor in this district, although the mansion no longer stands; the site and demesnes, which lay near Eastwell, having been included in the upper park, which was formerly called Aperfield's garden. This was one of the seats belonging to the ancient family of the Appulderfield's, otherwise Apperfield. Henry de Apulderfield resided at Apulderfield, in Cowdham, and was possessed of this property under Henry III., and his descendant, Henry, held it in the reign of Edward III. From him it passed to Richard lord Poynings, who died holding the same under Richard II. when his grandson, leaving a daughter, Eleanor, she carried it in marriage to Sir Henry Percy, afterwards earl of Northumberland. How long it continued in his descendants we cannot ascertain, but in the reign of Henry VII. it was in the possession of one Moyle, whose heir, Sir Thomas, of Eastwell, dying in 1560, without issue male, Catherine, his daughter and coheir, conveyed it in marriage to Sir Thomas Finch, of Eastwell, together with the site of the ancient mansion of Otterpley, which was included in the pale of the upper park, as above mentioned. It then continued in the same succession of ownership down to George Finch Hatton, esq. of Eastwell.

Lorringden, and Dean, are two manors in this parish, the former of which is written in ancient deeds *Lourding*, or *Lurdingden*, and was formerly owned by a family of that name, the

place on which it stands being called Loringden's Forstal. Philipot says, there was a tradition very current among the country people in these parts, that Loringden being possessed by a family of that name, one of them had a combat with an Apulderfield, of Otterpley, concerning the building of a chapel in the valley, which was said by Loringden to have been placed on his land. The latter manor anciently belonged to owners of the same name, who so styled themselves from their residence here, as appears from several old deeds, without date, wherein they are styled *At Dean*, and sometimes *A Dean*, and subsequently *Dean*. When the Loringden's left their possessions here, we cannot find; but, from the earliest records remaining, which go no further back than the reign of Henry IV. that manor was become the property of the Cadman's, a family which had been long before resident in this neighbourhood, and in the reign of Henry IV. became by purchase, from the Dean's, likewise possessed of the manor of Dean.

These manors continued in the family of the Cadman's till the reign of James I. when, by a daughter and heir, they went in marriage to William Plumer, gent. of Cranbrooke, who died in 1622, and devised them by will to his second son, William, who was also of Cranbrooke. He afterwards alienated them to the Peers's, one of whose descendants, John, at his death, in 1685, demised these manors, by will, to his only daughter and heir, Elizabeth, who entitled her husband, Thomas Brisley, of this parish, to the possession of the same. Their two sons, William and Thomas, succeeded as coheirs in gavelkind, and, on a division of their inheritance, the latter became possessed of the whole property of these manors, which he conveyed in 1737 to Mr. Edward Watts, of Bersted, who demised them to his great nephew, Mr. Edward Watts, gent. of Gravesend.

There were formerly several good families resident in this parish, possessing considerable estates. The Lewknor's of *Bodshead* were residents here in the reign of Elizabeth, when the estate passed to the Moyle's, of Eastwell, which was by them laid into that park. The house was on the west side of the avenue, leading from Challock Lees to Eastwell house. The Gyles's were also anciently residents here, and owners of land in Sheldwich, as early as the period of Richard II. They are now extinct, as also the family of the Hawkner's. The Thurston's likewise

owned estates here, called *Baylis Propchauntis* and *Parvocke*, several of whom lie buried in the church and churchyard, the last having died in 1632, soon after which the name became extinct.

This parish is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Bridge. The church stands at the boundary of the hundred of Felborough, part of the cemetery being in the hundred of Wye. It is said to have been founded by one of the family of the Apulderfield's, and consists of three aisles, with a high north chancel, having at the west end a tower steeple embattled. There are several memorials in this church for the Gyles's, the Hawker's, and the Thurstan's. In the north chancel is a plain flat tomb, very ancient; on the north side a low plain tomb, coffin-shaped, and on the pavement an ancient grave-stone of the same shape, with five or six letters in French capitals remaining on the upper side, but nearly illegible. Some good fragments of ancient glass still remain in the windows, and in the churchyard are six yew-trees of a remarkably large growth. The church of Challock is esteemed only as a chapel of ease to that of Godmersham, and as such, is not rated separately in the king's books.

The parsonage, or great tithes of this parish, like that of Godmersham, was part of the possessions of the priory of Christ church, in Canterbury, and, upon the dissolution, went to the crown, where it remained till the reign of Elizabeth, who exchanged it with Archbishop Parker, at which period it was valued at £14 13 4 per annum.

This church constitutes a part of the vicarage of Godmersham, the vicar being presented and instituted to that church, with the chapel of Challock annexed. Archbishop Juxon, in conformity with the king's letters mandatory, under Charles II. augmented this vicarage in a pension of £10 per annum. In 1588 there were 177 communicants, and in 1640 only 120.

In 1821 there were forty-eight dwellings in the parish of Challock; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 199, females 182, making a total of 381 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF BOUGHTON UNDER BLEAN.

Boughton lies, adjoining to that of *Faversham*, eastward. It is written in Domesday *Boltone*, in the reign of Edward I. *Boctune*, and soon after *Boughton*, the archbishop being then lord of the district. There is a court-leet held for this hundred, for which two constables are chosen, *one* for the upper, and *the other* for the LOWER HALF HUNDRED, who have jurisdiction over the whole.

THIS HUNDRED CONTAINS WITHIN ITS BOUNDS THE PARISHES OF BOUGHTON *under Blean*, HERNE HILL, GRAVENEY, and *part of* SELLING, with the churches of those parishes.

Boughton under Blean is the next parish, eastward, from Faversham, and called, in Latin deeds *Bocton, subtus le Blen*, to distinguish it from other parishes of the same name, as well as from its situation under the forest of Blean, which lies above the hill at the eastern boundary.

This parish is contiguous to the high London road, which runs along the northern bounds of the same, the fiftieth milestone standing within the street.

The rill of water on the common, at the bottom of Boughton hill, bounds it eastward, whence it stretches a considerable length, southward, leaving Rhodes farm within its bounds, and so westward to Gushborne, an estate belonging to the Ismay's. Making a circle to the north-west, it then includes Colking house, and a small part only of the farm, whence crossing the London road, northward, it encircles Fairbrook, formerly belonging to the Best's, and thence, taking in Nash, goes on, eastward, to the north side of Boughton street. A portion of this parish is entirely separated from the rest, by those of Herne hill and Graveney intervening, including in the same the marsh called Graveney, otherwise Cleve marsh, on the north side of those pa-

rishes, which constitutes part of the demesnes of Boughton manor.

The situation is not very healthy, though pleasant, the largest part occupying a fine fertile country, close to the bottom of Boughton hill, which, with the woods along the summit of that high range, form a fine picturesque view; the soil of this parish is very variable.

The principal village, called Boughton street, stands on a rise, being built on either side of the London road, as previously mentioned. It is beautifully situated, surrounded by hop grounds and orchards, in the midst of which is a neat modern house, formerly the property of Terry Marsh, esq. who died in 1789.

Below the small hill, at the west end of the street, are two streamlets, that to the west being a *nailbourn*, rises in Herst wood, and the other at Gore ; when, having supplied the ponds in Nash by their plentiful flowing, they cross the London road, and continue their course thence northward to the Swale.

The mansion of Nash, the paddock of which adjoins the north side of the London road, near the above streamlets, is situated on the knoll of a hill, being a large handsome building, commanding a fine prospect, eastward, over the adjacent country, terminated by the Boughton hills, and was, some years back, fitted up with considerable taste. On the opposite side of the road, about a mile southward, is the parsonage house, and near it the church, having the court lodge close to the churchyard. A little farther on is a hamlet called South street, which, according to tradition, was formerly the only one in the parish. It is remarkable, that the above road leading from Ospringe, through this parish, is called, in ancient perambulations of the town and parish of Faversham, as early as the reign of Edward I. *Key street*, most probably the *Key street* beyond Sittingbourne, on the same road from *Caius Julius Ceasar*, *quasi Caii Stratum*. In 1518 there was an almshouse in Boughton street, and there are also two schools established here.

In the year 1716, in digging up a hedge by the highway side, a man's skull and bones, accompanied by a hanger, or back sword, were found, which, through time, had crumbled into pieces of about a finger's length; there was also a brass coin of the Emperor Antoninus Pius.

The Manor of Boughton was part of the ancient possessions

of the see of Canterbury, under the title of whose lands it was entered in Domesday, and the demesnes of the manor have been demised, from time to time, on a beneficial lease.

The family of the Digges's, of Chilham castle, was for several generations lessees of this property. Thomas Digges, esq. held it in 1643, at the yearly rental of £40 13 4; and in his descendants it remained till Thomas Digges, esq. of Chilham alienated his term therein, in 1723, to Mr. James Colebrooke. His eldest son, Robert, in 1774, vested his interest in trustees, and they sold it to Thomas Heron, esq. of Newark upon Trent, who, in 1776, passed his term to John Lade, esq. of this parish.

The Manor of Butlers, otherwise Brenley, was formerly accounted as *two separate manors*, but they have been for many years consolidated. The court lodge, called Brenley, but formerly spelt Brinley, is an eminent mansion in this parish, situated about a mile from the church, and once gave name to a family that possessed it. Sir Lawrence de Brinley flourished here under Edward I. and in his descendants it continued till one of the name sold it to John Roper, esq. of St. Dunstan's, who died in 1489 possessed of the manors of Brenley and Botelar, which he devised to his second son, Thomas Roper, who resided at Brenley. He died in 1527, leaving an only daughter and heir, Elizabeth, to whom by his will he gave this estate, when she carried it in marriage to Robert Eyre, esq. of Derbyshire, who repaired this mansion for the purpose of entertaining Queen Elizabeth, in her progress through this county in 1573, but did not live to finish the undertaking, or entertain the queen. In the descendants of Robert Eyre this estate continued, till, by a female heir, it went to the Rowth's, whose descendant, Sir John, possessed this manor of Butlers, or Brenley, (for it was then but one estate,) and rebuilt the mansion, where he resided until his death in 1657. He left an only surviving son, Francis Rowth, esq. who died in 1677, and was succeeded by his only surviving sister, Margaret, married to John Boys, esq. and John Fanewell, his nephew, son of his sister Dorothy, deceased. Margaret Boys, dying in 1710, by will devised her interest to her kinsman George Fanewell, son of her nephew, John, before mentioned, when he consequently became possessed of the whole fee of this manor and estate.

He resided at Brenley, and, dying in 1741, was succeeded by

his son, and only surviving heir, married to Sarah Nethersole, who dying in 1750, he left his widow this estate for her jointure, when she marrying Nathaniel Marsh, esq., and again the Rev. Samuel Freemantle, entitled each of them to her life interest in this estate. Upon her decease the property went by entail, made in the will of George Fanewell, the father, to the issue of his sister, Mrs. Anne Wyerdale, consisting of four daughters, viz. Anne, and Margaret, Sarah, relict of John Jarman, esq., and Elizabeth Wyerdale: Anne, Margaret, and Elizabeth, dying unmarried; and Mrs. Jarman, departing this life in 1773, left a son, Nathaniel, and a daughter, Mary, who afterwards jointly possessed this estate.

There was a Manor in this parish, which had in early times a seat belonging to it, called Boughton Court, by which name the manor itself was then known, and gave title to the family that possessed it. Elias de Boton held it by knight's service as of the honour of Boulogne, in the reigns of Henry III. and Edward I. and it appears by deeds of the reigns of Edward II. and III. that John de Bocton then held them. In later times, by Sir John Rowth's evidences, it had acquired the name of *Boughton gate*, otherwise *Swaffer's tenement*, which latter denomination it acquired from a family of the name of Swafford, which was the next possessor after the Bocton's. The Benger's succeeded the Swaffer's, called Benger from those of Hougham, near Dover, when the estate afterwards passed to the Hales's, from whom it went by sale to the Wood's, and from that name, about the beginning of the last century, to Sir John Rowth, owner likewise of Brenley, since which it has passed in like manner as that estate to Nathaniel Jarman, esq.

The house is a large ancient timbered building, situated at the east end of Boughton street.

Nash is a mansion of considerable account, having been the family seat of the Hawkin's for many centuries. The first of that line mentioned is Andrew Hawkins, who had an estate in the liberty of Holderness, in Yorkshire; and left by his wife, Joan de Nash, by whom he inherited this estate, two sons, Richard, and John. The latter purchased lands in Boughton, in the reign of Richard II., whose son, John, was of Nash, which continued in his descendants down to Thomas Hawkins, esq. of Nash. He, dying in 1588, aged 101, was buried with his wife

in the north chancel of this church, under a tomb of Bethersden marble, whereon lays his figure in brass, with an inscription certifying that he served King Henry VIII. which won him fame, who was a gracious prince to him, and made him well to spend his aged days. He was high of stature, and so strong as to excel all others of his time. His only son, Sir Thomas Hawkins, likewise resided at Nash, whose heir was a gentleman of great learning, and died in 1640, in whose descendants this property continued down to Thomas Hawkins, esq. of Nash, who rebuilt this seat, of which he died possessed in 1766, aged ninety-two. During the troubles, in 1715, on account of the Scotch rebellion, this family being of the Catholic persuasion, the seat of Nash was plundered, and every vestige of the furniture, family pictures, and title deeds of the estate, burnt, together with an excellent library of books, the plate being also carried off, and never after heard of. John, his eldest son, became his heir, and possessed Nash, who married Susan, daughter of Robert Constantine, esq. by whom he had two sons, to the eldest of whom, Thomas, he gave during his lifetime, this seat, together with other estates in this country; he married Mary, daughter of John Bradshaw, esq. of London, by whom he had four daughters, and resided at Nash, when he made great additions and improvements.

The house is a large handsome building, pleasantly situated on the summit of a hill, having a fine prospect over the adjoining country.

Colkins is a seat situated about a quarter of a mile westward from that of Brenley, and was originally built by John Colkin, a citizen of Canterbury, who died possessed of this estate under Edward III. There was a family, of the name of Colkyn, likewise at Nonington, but they bore different arms from those of Boughton. From this name the property was, about the period of Henry VII. alienated to the Petit's, whose descendant, Cyriak Petit, gent. resided here, and dying possessed of the estate in 1591, lies buried in this church. This family of the Petit's was a younger branch of those of Chilham, Cyriak Petit being a feodary of Kent, an office of great trust and eminence, who drew up a survey of all the manors, in Kent, held of the king by knight's service, under Henry VIII., being a valuable compilation, and often referred to in the progress of this History.

From him, Colkins descended down to Mr. William Petit, who, in the reign of George I. alienated this estate to Mr. Richard Stacey, master builder of the king's yard, at Deptford, who erected the present seat at Colkins, and partly by sale, and marriage of his daughter, Mary, transferred his right in the same to Mr. Peter Rawlins, of Sheerness. He left two daughters his coheirs; the eldest of whom married Mr. Bisby Lambart; and Caroline, the youngest, John Carter, esq. of Deal; when, upon a division of the estates, Colkins became the property of Mr. Lambart, in right of his wife, who left it to her at his death.

DANE COURT IS A MANOR in the southern part of this parish, which, in ancient times, had owners of the same name. Sir Allan de Dane resided here in the reign of Edward III. and it continued the mansion of his descendants for many years after, but, under Henry IV. the Fogge's were become its proprietors, the last of whom, Sir John, died possessed of this property, as appears by his will, in the reign of Henry VII. From that name it was soon after sold to the Petit's, of Colkins; in which family it continued till the reign of George I. when they were both alienated to Mr. Richard Stacey, of Deptford, and passed by marriage to the Rev. Nicholas Carter, of Deal, who left the whole to his son, of that place.

SCARBUTS is a small manor, the house of which was situated on the north side of Boughton street. The whole has been pulled down to make an opening before the mansion of Mr. Marsh, which was built on part of the demesnes of this manor, and sold to him for that purpose.

This manor is, in ancient deeds, called *Starbuts*, but has long been known by its present name. It was, some years past, possessed by Mr. Richard Goatley, gent. of Boughton Blean, who by will in 1707, gave it to Anne, wife of Thomas Hulse, for life, with remainder to her son, Isaac. It then passed to Mr. Peter Holness; and from him to John and Stephen Gillam, who, in 1757, sold it to the trustees of Terry Marsh, esq. of this parish, son of Nathaniel Marsh, who left it to his widow.

BOUGHTON is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Ospringe. The church, dedicated to Sts. Peter and Paul, consists of a body and two aisles, with a high chancel belonging to the parsonage, and two side chancels, or chapels. That to the north, formerly

St. James's chapel, belongs to the seat of the Nash's, and is filled with the monuments of the Hawkins's family; and that southward, to the Brenley's and Colkins's, being formerly called the chapel of St. John, in which are monuments of the families of the Rowth's; the Fanewell's; and the Petit's. In the body are several grave-stones of the Colkins's, whereof the only brass now remaining is in memory of John Colkins, who died in 1405. In the south aisle is a brass plate for John Best and Joan, his wife, A.D. 1508.

The church of Boughton was part of the ancient possessions of the see of Canterbury, and so remained till Archbishop Stratford, in the reign of Edward III. exchanged it, together with that of Preston, with the abbot and convent of Faversham, for the manor of Tring, in Hertfordshire; subsequent to which, the archbishop appropriated the church of Boughton to that abbey.

Before the appropriation of the church, it had annexed to it the chapel of Hernehill, where, upon that occasion, a vicarage was instituted, as well as at the mother church of Boughton, when they were constituted two distinct presentative churches. The advowson of Boughton then remained with the archbishop, and that of Hernehill with the abbot and convent of Faversham. In the reign of Richard II. this parsonage was valued, among the temporalities belonging to Faversham, at £60 per annum.

This church so remained till the dissolution of the abbey, under Henry VIII. when, devolving to the crown, that prince settled it on his dean and chapter of Canterbury. It was exempt from the jurisdiction of the archdeacon, and the vicarage valued in the king's books at £9 4 9½, the yearly tenths being 18s. 5½d. In 1640 its value was £60, the communicants amounting to 400, and the recusants thirty.

This parish anciently contained two chapels, one near the west end of Boughton street, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, which was pulled down to afford materials to repair the highways, when the poor-house was erected on its site: the other stood in South street, where a house now stands, called Chapel house.

Under Richard II. there was an hospital here for the use of poor leprous people, with a chapel adjoining, dedicated to St. Nicholas, founded by one Thomas at Herst; the ruins of which

structure are conjectured to exist at the watering-place, at the west end of Boughton street.

In 1821 there were 215 dwellings in the parish of Boughton; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 621, females 616, making a total of 1237 souls.

Hernehill is the next adjoining parish northward, over which the paramount manor of the hundred of Boughton, belonging to the archbishop, claims jurisdiction.

This parish lies near the London road, close at the back of the north side of Boughton street, at the fiftieth milestone, from which the church is a conspicuous object; the district being most unpleasant and unhealthy. It lies, especially near the church, very low and flat, and altogether dreary and forlorn. The hedge-rows are broad, with continued shaves and coppice wood, mostly of oak, which join those of the Blean, eastward; and so continue till they gain the marshes, at the northern boundary of the same.

In this part of the parish there are several Greens or Forestals, on one of which is a house built by Mr. Thomas Squire, on a farm belonging to Joseph Brooke, esq. afterwards the property of his devisee, the Rev. John Kenard Shaw Brooke, of Town Malling. The estate formerly belonged to Sir William Stourton, who purchased it of John Norton, gent. This Green seems formerly to have been called Downing green, whereon stood a house, styled Downing house, belonging to George Vallance, as appears by his will in 1686. In the hamlet of Way Street, in the western part of the parish, is a good old family mansion, formerly the residence of the Clinche's, descended from those of Eastling, several of whom lie buried in this church. One of the family, Edward Clinch, dying unmarried, in 1722, Elizabeth, his aunt, widow of Thomas Cumberland, gent. succeeded to this property; and at her death, in 1768, gave it by will to Mrs. Margaret Squire, widow of the late owner. The ground rises to the southward more dry and healthy; and, on a small hill, stands the church, with the village of Church Street adjoining, from which situation this parish, most probably, derived its name of Hernehill. Near the boundary of the parish is the

hamlet of Staple Street, with a house, on the side of a hill, called Mount Ephraim, which belonged to the family of the Dawes's. This dwelling was built by Major William Dawes, on whose death, in 1754, it went to his brother, Bethel Dawes, esq. who dying, devised it by will to his cousin, Mr. Thomas Dawes; and he afterwards resided there.

DARGATE is a manor in this parish, situated at some distance, northward, from the church, at a place called *Dargate Strand.* This estate was, as early as it can be traced back, possessed by the family of the Martyn's, whose seat was at Graveney court, in the adjoining parish. John Martyn, judge of the Common Pleas, died possessed of the same in 1436, leaving Anne, his wife, surviving, who carried the property in marriage to her second husband, Thomas Burgeys, esq. whom she also survived, and died possessed of this estate in 1458, bequeathing it to her eldest son, by her first husband, John Martyn, of Graveney, whose eldest son, of the same name, died holding it in 1480. He devised it to his eldest son, Edmund, who resided at Graveney under Henry VII.; and in his descendants it remained down to Matthew Martyn, who owned this manor under Henry VIII.; and, in 1539, Thomas Martyn was interred in the church here. Matthew, above mentioned, leaving a sole daughter, Margaret, she conveyed the estate in marriage to William Norton, of Faversham, ancestor of the Norton's, of Fordwich. His son, Thomas, of that place, alienated this property, under James I. to Sir John Wilde, of Canterbury, who, about the same time, purchased of Sir Roger Nevison another estate adjoining, called *Epes Court,* otherwise *Yocklets,* whose ancestors had resided here prior to their removal to Eastry, which has remained in the same line of ownership with the above manor.

LAMBERTS LAND is a small manor situated at a little distance, northward, from the last-mentioned district, and so near the eastern bounds of this parish, that although the house is within its bounds, yet part of the lands lie in that of Bleane. This manor seems to have been part of the revenue of the abbey of Faversham very soon after its foundation, in the year 1147, and so continued till its final dissolution, under Henry VIII., when that prince granted this property, among other premises in this parish, to Thomas Ardern, of Faversham, to hold in tail male *in capite* by knight's service.

On his demise without male heirs, having been murdered in his house by the contrivance of his wife and others, in the reign of Edward VI. this manor reverted to the crown, when it was soon after granted to Sir Henry Crispe, of Quekes, to hold by the like service. He passed it to his brother, William Crispe, lieutenant of Dover castle, who died possessed of this property under Elizabeth, leaving John Crispe, esq. his son and heir. He sold this manor to Sir John Wilde, who again passed it away to John Hemet, esq. when, dying in 1657, it continued down to his grandson, Sir John Hemet, who, in 1700, alienated the estate to Christopher Curd, of St. Stephen's, otherwise Hackington. He, in 1715, sold it to Thomas Willys, who died in 1726, devising it to his brother and heir at law, Sir William Willys, when it passed in the same manner as Dargate, last mentioned.

Hernehill is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Ospringe. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, consists of two aisles and a chancel. In the latter are several memorials to the Clinche's; and in the window the arms of the see of Canterbury, impaling Bourchier. The pillars between the two aisles are very elegant, formed in clusters of four together, and are of Bethersden marble.

The church of Hernehill was anciently accounted only as a chapel to the adjoining church of Boughton, and part of the possessions of the see of Canterbury.

The parsonage, together with the advowson of the vicarage, remained, after this period, among the revenues of the abbey, till the final dissolution under Henry VIII. when they both devolved to the king's hands, who, in that year, granted the parsonage to Cromwell lord Cromwell, on whose attainder and execution all his estates were confiscated, when this, among the rest, fell to the crown, and so remained till 1558, when it was granted to the see of Canterbury. It is exempt from the jurisdiction of the archdeacon, and was valued in the king's books at £15, and the yearly tenths at £1 10. In 1640 the valuation was £40, and communicants 100.

In 1821 there were eighty-three dwellings in the parish of Hernehill; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 241, females 236, making a total of 447 souls.

GRAVENEY is the next parish, north-westward, from Herne-hill, and was called, in the time of the Saxons, *Graven-ea*, and afterwards, by corruption of language, *Gravenel*, and now usually *Grainey*. It lies about two miles from the high London road, on the north side, at the forty-eighth milestone, the parish of Goodnestone intervening, and presents a low flat country, adjoining the marshes, of which there are abundance here, as well fresh as salt; Faversham creek and the Swale constituting its western and northern boundaries. The church stands in the eastern part of the parish, having Graveney court, with an ancient gateway and numerous offices singularly built round the same, the whole well worth observation, as denoting its former respectable state. In the western part is Nagdon, adjoining Faversham creek, having a decoy for wild fowl, and a large quantity of marsh lands belonging to the district.

The archbishop's paramount manor of *Boughton* claims over the whole of this parish, as being within that hundred; subordinate to which is the manor of Graveney.

In the year 811, Wilfred archbishop of Canterbury purchased this property of Cenulph king of Mercia (who had rendered Kent tributary to him), for the use of Christ church, Canterbury, as appears by the ledger book of that priory. Soon after, one Werhard, a powerful priest, and kinsman of the archbishop, found means to gain possession of the estate, which he retained till the death of that prelate, in 830, when Feogild, succeeding to the see of Canterbury, he compelled Werhard to restore Gravene, then computed at thirty-two hides, to the church. This was confirmed, in 941, by King Edmund, Eadred his brother, and Edwyn, son of the latter. It then remained part of the revenues of Christ church, until the accession of Archbishop Lanfranc to that see, in 1070 when, on a division of his estates between himself and the monks of his church, this manor fell to his share, of whom it was afterwards held by knight's service, In this state it continued at the survey of Domesday, anno 1080, and was therein entered under the title of *lands held of the archbishop by knight's service.*

In the reign of Henry III. William de Gravene held it of the archbishop as one knight's fee, and John de Gravene died possessed of the manor in the same reign; after which it became the property of the family of Faversham. Thomas of that

name died here in the reign of Edward III. leaving his wife Joan, surviving, who conveyed it by a second marriage to Sir Roger de Northwood. Upon her death, her son, Richard de Faversham, succeeded to this manor, of which he died possessed in 1381, and was buried in this church, having married the daughter of Robert Dodde. His tomb, of Bethersden marble, remains upon the south wall of this church, and in the south chancel, on the top, were two figures, and four coats of arms, the brasses of which are gone; and, above the tomb, is a recess in the wall, with an ancient carved arch over the same. His daughter and heir, Joan, married John Boteler, esq. and in her right became entitled to this manor, when she, dying in 1408, was buried in the south chancel, her figure in brass on the grave now missing, but the inscription still remains. John Boteler, her son, succeeded, and in the south chancel is a grave-stone most probably for him, with a figure in brass, obliterated, the inscription, however, still remained in the time of Weever. Joan, his wife, was daughter and heir of William de Frogenhall, by whom he had a daughter and heir, Anne, who carried this manor in marriage to John Martyn, judge of the Common Pleas. He dying in 1436, she conveyed it a second time in marriage to Thomas Burgeys, esq. whom she likewise survived, and, dying in 1458, was buried beside her first husband, in the north chancel of this church.

In the descendants of Judge Martyn, residents at Graveney court, this manor continued down to Robert, who also resided here, and died in the reign of Edward VI. leaving two daughters, Joan married to Richard Argall, and Elizabeth to Stephen Reames, of Faversham, his heirs. By the latter this manor was alienated to John Pordage, of Rodmersham, in whose line it continued till sold to Daniel Whyte, esq. of Vinters, in Boxley, whose descendant, under George II. alienated the estate to Mr. Edward Blaxland. He dying in 1739, it was apportioned into several divisions, and again into subdivisions, among his descendants, in whom it remained; but the male line of Blaxland continued to reside on this estate. From the beginning of the last century, to the middle of the same, the family of Napleton appears to have resided at Graveney court, which was succeeded by the Hougham's, of which families many lie buried in this church, as also representatives of the line of Blaxland.

Nagden, formerly spelt *Negdon*, is a well-known estate in the north-west part of this parish, consisting mostly of marsh lands, which once constituted part of the endowment of the abbey of Faversham, among the revenues of which it continued till its final dissolution under Henry VIII. when it was valued at £8 per annum. This estate was then granted by the king to Sir Thomas Cheney, lord warden, to hold *in capite*, who alienated it to Robert Martyn, of Graveney court, and he dying in the reign of Edward VI. left his two daughters, Joan and Elizabeth, before mentioned, his coheirs. They jointly possessed this estate, and carried it in the same manner as Graveney to their respective husbands, when those moieties appear to have been conveyed to Cyriack Petit, of Colkins, who died possessed of the entire fee in 1591. In his descendants it continued down to Mr. William Petit, who in 1709 sold it to dame Sarah Barnett, of Lee, widow, who died in 1711, when this estate devolved to her only son, by her first husband, Sir Francis Head, bart. who died possessed of the same in 1716. He left four sons who succeeded as heirs in gavelkind, and on the death of the eldest, Sir Richard Head, bart. in 1721, his share devolved to his three brothers, when James, dying intestate in 1727, unmarried, Sir Francis and John Head became possessed of the estate in undivided moieties. They, in 1745, joined in the sale of this property to John Smith, of Faversham, who afterwards conveyed it to his son, John Smith, of Ospringe.

Graveney is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Ospringe. The church, dedicated to All Saints, consists of three aisles, and a high chancel, with two side aisles, formerly called chapels; that on the south having been dedicated to St. John, and that to the north to the Virgin. The ancient grave-stones in this church have been removed from their original places, to make room for others.

The church of Graveney, with the advowson of the vicarage, was, in ancient times, part of the possessions of St. Mary Overies, in Southwark, where it remained till the final dissolution under Henry VIII. It then continued vested in the crown some years longer than the advowson of the vicarage, when, by Elizabeth, this rectory, then valued at £7 6 8 yearly, was granted to

Archbishop Parker, and his successors, in exchange for other premises.

The vicarage was valued in the king's books at £50, the yearly tenths being £1 4s. In 1578 there were ninety communicants, and in 1640 sixty-five, the estimate then being £60 a year.

In 1821, there were thirty-four dwellings in the parish of Graveney; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 105, females 89, making a total of 194 souls.

Selling adjoins Boughton to the southward, on the opposite side of the London road to Graveney. It is written in Domesday *Selinge*, and *Sellinges*, and in some old records is called *Sellinge subtus Bleane*. That portion in the borough of Rode is comprised in the hundred of Faversham.

In addition to the manor of Selling, those of *Rodes Court*, *Shillingheld*, and *Tenham*, claim over different parts of this parish.

Selling is situated about two miles southward of the high London road, near the forty-ninth milestone. It lies on a rising ground, towards the south, in a dry and heathy country. At a small distance westward of the church, which stands in the centre of the village, is the court lodge, now a farm-house, near which, in the vale, is an old mansion called *Marshes*, which was afterwards modernised, and in the last century possessed by the family of the Chambers's, several of whom lie buried in this church. From an elder son was descended the late Abraham Chambers, esq. of Tunstall, and, by a daughter and coheir of a younger son, this estate passed partly by marriage and sale, to Mr. Robert Hilton, gent. of this parish, whose son, Mr. Thomas Hilton, afterwards resided there. Farther westward is the hamlet of Hanville green, with the estates of Harefield, situated in a rough and hilly country. In the southern part of this parish is also a very high and conspicuous eminence, called Shottenton hill, commanding a very extensive prospect, there being also the traces of an ancient camp of a triangular form, having the angles rounded off. The middle is now occupied by a windmill,

its whole extent including about an acre and three quarters of ground. It had two entrances, one to the south, and the other to the north-east; the south-east side being on the declivity of the hill, and a short half mile northward from this spot is a considerable *tumulus*, planted at present with beech.

It has been conjectured by some antiquaries that this was a *Roman camp*, while others entertain an opinion that it owes its origin to the Dane's. However, from the vestiges of strong fortifications, and intrenchments thrown up in Shillingham wood, about two miles south-eastward, which seems to have been one of the *castra stativa* of the Romans, we are led to think this on Shottenton hill, from its contiguity, to have been one of the *castra æstiva*, or smaller summer encampments, as well as an exploratory fort for the use of the large one. This was certainly an excellent situation for such a purpose, as in addition to a complete command of the country on all sides, it was plentifully watered by wells over different parts of this hill, many of which possess mineral qualities, as appears by the ochreous substances with which they abound. These latter seem mostly to have been formed by nature.

The parish of Selling possesses the reputation of having been the birthplace of William Tylle, otherwise Selling, a man conspicuous in his time for learning and wisdom, having been prior of Christ church in Canterbury, where he died in 1494.

Selling was given, in the year 1045, to the monks of St. Augustine's monastery, in Canterbury, and entered in the general survey of Domesday under the title of their lands, about the year 1080.

The manor, with the rectory, remained part of the possessions of that fraternity till its final dissolution, when that great abbey was surrendered to the king, who granted it to Sir Anthony St. Leger, in tail male, to hold *in capite*. He, under Edward VI. obtained a new grant of the same to himself and his heirs, after which, his son, Sir Warham St. Leger, passed it away by sale to Sir Michael Sondes, of Throwley. The latter died in 1617, when his descendant, Sir George Sondes, earl of Faversham, leaving two daughters, coheirs, Mary, married to Lewis lord Daras, afterwards earl of Faversham, and Catherine, to Lewis Watson, earl of Rockingham; each of them successively, in

right of their wives, possessed this manor and rectory. The latter died owner of the same in 1724, and his grandsons, Lewis and Thomas, both successively dying, they were devised, among his other estates, to the Honourable Lewis Monson, who afterwards assumed the name of Watson, and in 1766 was created lord Sondes, when this estate descended to his son, Thomas lord Sondes. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Perrywood and Harsefield are two manors in the south-west part of this parish, the former of which is called in Domesday *Perie,* and was part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Bayeux, under the general title of whose lands it was entered in Domesday record. After the disgrace of that prelate, in 1084, this estate appears to have passed to owners of the same name, one of whom, Randal de Perie, held this manor under King John, as did his descendant William, in the reign of Edward II. whereas, under Edward III. this family became extinct. The Darell's afterwards held it, and successively the Finch's, and then the Martyn's, of Graveney. John died possessed of this estate in 1436, leaving it to his widow, who married Thomas Burgeys, esq. whom she also survived; and, dying in 1458, left Perrywood to her second son, Robert Martyn. Both these manors eventually became the property of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, in which establishment they remained, being rented by Thomas lord Sondes.

Oven's Court is a manor in this parish, though it has long lost the reputation of ranking as such; its proper name is Owen's Court, having been the ancient seat of a family so called, which resided here under Henry III. It then passed to the Dryland's of Cooksditch, in Faversham, who continued there till the time of Edward IV. when it was sold to Sir John Fogge, of Repton. On the attainder of the latter, under Richard III. this manor passed to the crown, upon which it was granted to Gloucester Herald, to hold by knight's service; but, by an Act passed, this manor again went into the possession of Sir John Fogge, under Henry VII. He, by will, gave it to his second son, Thomas, one of whose descendants, in the reign of Elizabeth, passed it to one Crouch, when Giles of that name, alienated it in 1588 to Michael Sondes, esq. afterwards of Throwley, who, in the reign of Charles I. sold it to the Franklyn's. They passed

it to the Lambe's, when it was alienated to other successive owners, till it became vested in the Right Honourable Lewis Thomas lord Sondes.

Rhodes Court is a manor situated in the south-east extremity of this parish, in the borough of the same name. It was anciently part of the possessions of the wealthy family of Badlesmere, one of whom, Bartholomew, under Edward II. obtained a grant of *free warren* for all his demesne lands within this manor. His son, Giles, dying in the reign of Edward III. left four sisters his coheirs; upon the division of whose inheritance, this manor was allotted to Margaret, who carried it in marriage to Sir John Tibetot. His son dying without issue male, it passed to a collateral branch of that family, when it descended to John Tibetot, earl of Worcester, who was beheaded in 1471, under Edward IV. He left, by his second wife, one son, Edward, who, though restored in blood by Edward IV. was not reinstated in this manor, which continued in the crown till the reign of Henry VIII. when Thomas Bealde, of Godmersham, died possessed of it, leaving two daughters, to whom he devised this estate. It afterwards passed through several owners, and ultimately became vested in the possession of John Sawbridge, esq. of Ollantigh, whose son afterwards resided there.

Southouse is an estate in this parish, which once had owners of that name, Valentine Southouse having possessed lands in Selling in 1449, whose eldest son, William, gave the south window in this church. Of this branch was Thomas Southouse, esq. author of the *Monasticon Faversham iense*, and other tracts, who died in 1676. His second son, Filmer Southouse, was a man of learning, and studied in the line his father had pursued. Other branches of this family were settled in this neighbourhood, in Sheldwich, and in Faversham, yet the estate was alienated to several different names, till Robert Dodde, being possessed of it, conveyed it back, in separate parcels, under Queen Elizabeth, to John, George, and Thomas Southouse. That part which consisted of the mansion, with the land adjoining, was, in the reign of Charles II. the property of Mr. Richard Southouse, who by his will in 1675, devised it to his sister, Elizabeth, and she, the following year, conveyed it to James Hardres, esq. John, a descendant of the latter, in 1702, conveyed it to Isaac Denew, esq. who, in

1719, pssed it by sale to John Wotton, of Sturry, whose descendant John, in 1777, conveyed it to Lewis Thomas lord Sondes.

Selling is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Ospringe. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, consists of three aisles, and at the upper end of the outer one are two chancels, of which, that to the south is the largest; and, with the rest of the church, appears to form a cross. In the east window of the high chancel are remains of good painted glass, containing figures of saints and warriors, and beneath them several armorial bearings. In the high chancel is a memorial for William Norwood, rector of St. Dunstan's in the east; under the upper south chancel is a vault, made by Mr. Hilton, for himself and his descendants; many of the families of the Gales's, as well as the Gyles's and Greenstreet's, of this parish, are also interred here. In the window, at the upper side of the north aisle, is a fine head of a Saint, with these armorial bearings: *a lion rampant guardant double-tailed ermine, over all a fess.*

The church of Selling was, in early times, together with the manor, part of the possessions of the monastery of St. Augustine, and so remained till its dissolution, under Henry VIII. when it was passed, by a grant from the crown, to Sir Anthony St. Leger; and from him descended, through several intermediate owners, down to the Right Hon. Lewis Thomas lord Sondes. In 1578 there were 133 communicants; and in 1640, 186, being valued at £60. It was afterwards a discharged living, of the clear yearly value of £37, the annual tenths being 13s. 4d.

In 1821, there were sixty-eight dwellings in the parish of Selling; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 296, females 277, making a total of 573 souls.

THE LIBERTY AND PARISH OF SEASALTER.

This liberty adjoins the parish of Hernehill and hundred of Boughton Blean, north-eastward, being so named from its proximity to the sea. It lies in an obscure situation, and bounded by the ocean to the north; but the large tract of marsh land which joins it to the west, as well as the bad water, combine to render it extremely unhealthy. The east and southern parts consist, for the most part, of coppice wood, the soil being a deep clay. The church stands on the knoll of a hill, nearly in the centre of the parish; below which, westward, the district consists of marsh land to the sea-shore. The dwellings are in Whitstaple street, a great portion of which is within the bounds of the same, over a part of which the borough of Harwich claims. There is an oyster fishery on the shore at this place, the grounds of which, called the Pollard, are an appendage to the manor of Seasalter, belonging to the dean and chapter of Canterbury, who demise them to seven fisher or free-dredger men, of Seasalter, at a certain yearly rental. In December, 1763, a live whale was driven on shore at the flats, near Seasalter, which was about fifty-six feet long.

The manor of Seasalter was given, before the Norman Conquest, to the priory of Christ church, in Canterbury, and continued part of its possessions at the survey of Domesday, under which title it was therein entered. This manor was let by the prior and convent to Roger de Wardenhale, in the reign of Henry II. at the yearly rent of £6, with a reservation of all royal fish, wrecks, &c., and afterwards to Clemencia, daughter of Henry de Hanifield, at the sum of ten marks, which was subsequently raised to £20 per annum. In 1494, prior Goldstone caused a new mansion or court lodge to be built here, when this estate continued vested in the priory till the final dissolution, under Henry VIII. who settled it on his dean and chapter of Canterbury.

ELYNDENNE, or *Ellenden* as it is now written, is a small manor, situated at the southern boundary of this parish, among the woods adjoining the vill of Dunkirk, within the bounds of which, one half of the house, as well as part of the lands, are situated, though, in the deeds belonging to this manor, it is constantly described as within this parish and Whitstaple. It was once the property of a family of its own name, one of whom, John Elyndenne, gave it to the abbot and convent of Faversham, as appeared by the ledger books of that abbey; after which it so remained till the dissolution, when Henry VIII. granted it to Thomas Ardern, of Faversham, gent. who alienated the same to John Needham. It then passed to Michael Beresford, and Sir George Newman, and, resting in Sir John St. Leger, in the reign of William and Mary, it became vested in Sir Henry Furnese, bart. of Waldersham, who died possessed of it in 1735, under age and unmarried, when his three sisters became his coheirs in tail general. On a partition of the property, this manor was allotted to the eldest daughter, wife of John Viscount St. John lord Bolingbrooke, who sold it, in 1791, to Mr. John Daniels, of Whitstaple. It was then passed, in 1793, to Mr. Hayward, of the Black Friars, Canterbury, whose widow afterwards possessed it.

This parish is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Westbere. The church, dedicated to St. Alphage, is small, consisting only of one aisle and a chancel. There is no memorial or inscription, but in the north window are some small remains of painted glass, and likewise two achievements, impaling different arms, being to commemorate the family of the Taylor's, who once owned lands in this parish. During the great storm, January 1, 1779, there was discovered, on the beach, near the sea-shore, the stone foundation of a large long building, lying due east and west, supposed to have been the ancient church of *Seasalter*. Many human bones were also uncovered by the shifting of the beach, both within and about the same, all of which were collected and buried in the churchyard of Seasalter.

This church was always appendant to the manor of Seasalter, belonging to the priory of Christ church, to which it was appropriated in 1236 for the maintenance of the monks; and after the dissolution Henry VIII. settled it on his newly erected dean

and chapter of Canterbury. In the reign of Richard II. anno 1384, the vicarage of this church, on account of the smallness of its income, was not taxed to the tenth. It was valued in the king's books at £11, but afterwards estimated at £25 19 8. In 1588 there were seventy-six communicants; and in 1640, the same number, the estimate then being £60.

In 1821 there were 128 dwellings in the parish of Seasalter; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 309, females 345, making a total of 654 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF WHITSTAPLE

Lies adjoining to the liberty of *Seasalter*, eastward, and contains within its bounds the parishes of Whitstaple *in part*, Swaycliffe, and Cosmus Blean, with the churches of those parishes; also a part of the parish of Nackington, the church of which latter is in another hundred. *Two constables* have jurisdiction over this district.

Whitstaple, called in ancient records *Northwood*, is the next parish eastward from Seasalter, the whole being within the hundred of Whitstaple, excepting the small borough of Harwich, over which the hundred of Westgate claims jurisdiction. Mr. Bunce, of Canterbury, who had drained the marshes, and converted them into arable land, having found a bed of clay on the sea-shore, caused it to be perforated, and, after some days' labour and anxious expectation, discovered, at the depth of seventy-two feet, the soil change from clay to sand, when he had the satisfaction of seeing an abundant flow of good fresh water, which, after efficient means had been adopted, rose to the height of six feet above the ground, and so continues to the present time. This source affords nine quarts of water in a minute, being more than sufficient for all the purposes required by the population. The description of this place, in the reign of Henry VIII. is thus given by Leland, vol. vii., p. 144: "Whitstaple is upward jnto Kent, a ii myles or more beyond Faversham, on the same shore, a great fisher towne of one paroche, belonging to Playze college, in Essex; and yt standeth on the se-shore. Ther abowt they dragge for oysters." In the year 1565, on a return made by the order of Queen Elizabeth there were found to be only eighty-two houses inhabited in Whitstaple.

The turnpike road from Canterbury crosses the western side, towards the sea-shore; and it was observed long ago, by the in-

habitants, that the sea gained in that direction every year. On either side of the above road stands the village, called Whitstaple street; and at the extremity is the new harbour, and a rail-road from Canterbury. Great part of this street, notwithstanding its name, is in the parish of Seasalter, which, having taken in part of the same, runs down northward in a strait line to the sea-shore. That portion of the street within this parish is in the borough of Harwich, in three several places, each detached from the other. The church stands on an eminence, about half a mile from the street, in a hamlet called Church street, which was formerly the only village here, the vicarage house being at some little distance. About half a mile from the street, near the beach and Tankerton, are six copperas-houses for the manufacturing of green vitriol: and salt works also existed in this parish. For some considerable length of time the fishermen in this neighbourhood, when dredging for oysters round a rock, called the Pudding Panrock, found great quantities of Roman earthenware, some entire, but mostly fragments. The traditional story is, that some vessel, freighted with that manufacture, was, many ages since, cast away on this rock, and its lading dispersed on and about it by the force of the waves. Many of these utensils were carried home by the fishermen, and made use of in their families, but the circumstance coming to the knowledge of the antiquaries, they were in general sought out, purchased, and afterwards preserved in their respective collections. Mr. Jacob, of Faversham, as mentioned in vol. I., p. 411, wrote some observations on this ware, in answer to Governor Pownall, who had ingeniously conjectured, that the rock once had a Roman pottery established upon it; in which treatise he has endeavoured to correct many of the governor's mistakes, by inculcating the belief of a wreck having happened here, those observations being followed by Mr. Keate, in a very sensible and well written paper.

The manor of Whitstaple, called, as before mentioned, Northwood, together with the hundred and church appendant, seems to have formed, in early times, part of the possessions of the same owners who had the barony of Chilham, and to have continued in like manner, as the descendants of Fulbert de Dover, to John earl of Athol, who being attainted, it then passed to Bartholomew de Badlesmere. His lands being also seized, it

went to David de Strabolgie, who died under Edward III. at this manor of Northwood; when Giles de Badlesmere had all his father's lands and manors restored to him. He left his four sisters his coheirs, and upon a division of their inheritance, this manor of Whitstaple, or Northwood, was allotted to Maud, widow of Roger Fitzpain, afterwards wife of John de Vere, earl of Oxford, created marquis of Dublin and duke of Ireland. Upon his banishment, this manor was granted to Thomas duke of Gloucester, the king's uncle, who settled it on his new founded college of Plecy, in Essex, where it remained till the dissolution, under Henry VIII. By that prince it was granted, with the rectory and advowson, to John Gate, gent. of his privy chamber, to hold *in capite*, but he being attainted, under Queen Mary, this estate became forfeited to the crown, where it remained till the reign of Elizabeth, who then granted it to Thomas Heneage, esq. to hold *in capite*. He obtained the queen's licence to alienate the manor to Thomas Smith, esq. of Westenhanger, who died possessed of the same in 1591; and his descendant, Philip lord Strangford, dying about the year 1709, Henry Roper lord Teynham, who had married Catherine, his eldest daughter, became, by his will, entitled to this estate, who soon after sold it to Sir Henry Furnese, bart. of Waldershare. On the demise of that gentleman, in 1712, it passed in the same descent as Ellenden manor, in Seasalter, above described, down to Lord Viscount Bolingbrooke; from whom it was afterwards conveyed to Charles Pearson, esq.

A court-leet and court-baron is held for this manor, usually at Michaelmas; and another court, for the regulating the oyster fishery, in the month of February.

Grimgill, as it is now called, is a manor in this parish, situated at a small distance south-east from the church. It was once a seat of considerable note, though now used as the parish workhouse. Its ancient name was *Greenshields*, which it derived from a family of that name, one of whom, Henry, died in the reign of Edward IV. when this manor was sold by his feoffees to John Quekes, esq. of Quekes, whose descendant, Nicholas Crispe, esq. afterwards of Quekes, resided here, in the reign of Elizabeth. It was then sold to Thomas Paramor, who, in 1648, conveyed it to his brother, Henry; who, in 1657, alienated it to

Mr. Anthony Farrer, when, by virtue of settlements, it was divided, in moieties, into the names of Twyman and Hamond; whose descendants joined in the conveyance of the whole to Mr. Joseph Stanwix, who owned this manor till 1735. It then passed to the possession of William Jenkins, esq.; and from him to the family of Lypyeatt, one moiety being demised to the widow and daughters of William Lypyeatt, and the other, in 1790, to his three nephews, William, James, and Thomas Foord.

Condies Hall or Place was so named from its ancient possessors, one of whom, John de Cundishall, held it, under Edward I., by knight's service, of Walter de Clifford. His descendant resided at this seat in the reign of Edward III. and established a high character for courage, having made an enemy of that monarch, of great note, a prisoner, in single combat, at Seine, in Normandy. He was, in consequence, rewarded by a settlement of £30 a year out of the king's profits of the staple at Canterbury. His son, William Cundie, dying without any legitimate issue, Margaret, his sister, became his coheir, and she marrying Robert Grubbe, entitled him to this estate, which marriage being unproductive of male issue, Agnes, one of his coheirs, conveyed it in dower to John Isaac, esq. of Bridge. It then descended to the Roper's, of St. Dunstan's, afterwards of Wellhall, in Eltham, with whose estates in this parish, it became afterwards so blended, as entirely to lose its original name, and continued with them, in the same line of descent, down to Edward Roper, esq. of Wellhall. He left one son, Edward, and a daughter, married to Edward Henshaw, esq. who left three daughters, the eldest of whom, by her uncle's will, who died in 1723, at length entitled her husband, William Strickland, esq. to this estate. He dying in 1788, it went, by the limitations of the will, to Sir Edward Dering, bart. and then to his descendant, Sir Edward, of Surrenden, who became owner of this manor by the above entail.

The Manor of Tankerton lies in the *borough of Harwich*, within the hundred of Westgate, and the bounds of the parish of Seasalter. This borough includes part of Whitstaple street, at three detached places, whence it extends north-eastward, about sixty rods wide, and half a mile in length, to the sea-

shore at Tankerton, which it includes within its bounds, with a small hamlet of houses, called Tankerton, close to the shore, about half a mile from Whitstaple street. This borough had anciently owners of the same name, William de Tangreton having held it under Edward I. by knight's service; but in the reign of Edward III. it became part of the possessions of the hospital, or Maison Dieu, at Ospringe. In that establishment it continued vested until the reign of Edward IV. when no member being left in that hospital, it escheated to the crown. After that period this manor was, most probably, granted, with the rest of the possessions of the hospital, to Fisher bishop of Rochester, for the endowment of St. John's college, in Cambridge, but it has long been obsolete, the name only remaining. The royalty of the borough, as well as the fishery, were subsequently claimed by the archbishop, but the latter is now become of little or no value.

This parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Westbere. The church, dedicated to All Saints, consists of two aisles and two chancels, being embattled with a tower steeple at the west corner. It appears ancient, but is subject to considerable decay, owing to the land springs beneath the whole of the structure. This fabric contains no memorials of any note. At the west end of the south aisle, is a gallery that was erected in 1770. Several of the Paramor's were interred here, but no memorials, as before observed, now remain. Under Queen Elizabeth it was valued at £30 3 4; and in that state it continued.

In 1821, there were 275 dwellings in the parish of Whitstaple; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow : males 844, females 767, making a total of 1611 souls.

Swaycliffe is the next parish eastward, written in ancient charters *Swalclyve,* in Domesday *Soaneclive,* now generally pronounced *Swakely.* This parish is small, extending about a mile either way ; it is bounded by the sea towards the north, the fields being large, and the surface tolerably level. The church stands in the north part, a little distance from the sea-shore, with the

court lodge adjoining the west end; near which is a farm, called Rayham, formerly belonging to the Roper's, and afterwards to the same owners as Chesfield, hereafter mentioned. The parish is lonely and unfrequented; the road to the same from Canterbury running through St. Stephen's, between the great woods of Thornden and Clowes.

The manor of Sturry claims over the borough of Swaycliffe, and the manor of Shourt over a portion, but the latter is *subordinate* to that of SWAYCLIFFE, which seems to have once belonged to St. Mildred's abbey, in Thanet, and was given by King Eadred, in 946, to one of his servants, named Henesige, by the grant of one hide and an half of land (*Mansum et Dimid*), to which the inhabitants of the country, from ancient use, had given the name of an *Swalewancliffe*. He bequeathed it to the abbey of St. Augustine, in which he had chosen for himself a place of sepulchre, and the profits of this manor were afterwards assigned by the abbot, in 1128, to the clothing of the monks. Upon the admeasurement of this manor, under Richard III. it was found to contain 214 acres of arable, pasture, wood, and furze, at Herneherst and at Bothwelle, all belonging to that monastery. It so remained till the dissolution, under Henry VIII. when passing to the crown, it was granted, with the advowson of the church, to Sir Christopher Hales, to hold *in capite*, at which time it seems to have been separated from the manor of Sturry, and formed an independent estate. Sir Christopher died possessed of the same, leaving three daughters, who became jointly entitled to this manor; when, upon the division of their estates, Swaycliffe was allotted to Mary, the youngest, who entitled her husband, Alexander Colepeper, esq. to its possession. In that name it continued till the reign of Elizabeth, when it passed by sale to Thomas Fane, esq. who, not long after, alienated the estate to Benedict Barnham, esq. alderman of London, who dying in 1598, left four daughters, one of whom entitled her husband, Sir William Soame, of Norfolk, to this possession. Being sold, shortly after, to one Perry, it then passed to the Gould's; thence to the Spencer's; one of the descendants of which name sold it to Colonel Palester, who parted with it to Mr. Lee; by whom it was alienated, under George II. to the trustees of William Cowper, then an infant, and afterwards Earl Cowper, who enjoyed the same.

A court-baron is held for this manor, which had also an oyster-ground appertaining to it.

At the period of the taking Domesday survey, the bishop of Bayeux held an estate in this hundred called *Soaneclive*, under the general title of whose lands it was therein entered. Four years after, the bishop being disgraced, and all his possessions confiscated, part of the above estate subsequently constituted *the manor of* Chestfield, which lies at the south-east part of this parish, and in the reign of King Edward II. was possessed by a family of the name of Reyner. Henry, one of that line, died, most probably, without issue male, leaving only daughters coheirs; and, in the reign of Edward III. this manor, with that of *Boteler's Court* and *Cluse*, situated in this parish, together with Whitstaple and Blean, which also belonged to him, appear to have been divided among different owners. The former then became the inheritance of a proprietor, who thence assumed his name, in the person of James de Chestwill, as it was then spelt. About the latter end of the reign of Richard II. it passed by sale to the family of the Roper's, of St. Dunstan's, and so descended down to John Roper, of Eltham, who died possessed of these estates in 1524, when they passed to Sir Edward Dering and Sir Rowland Wynne, who were joint proprietors of this manor. The Lypeatt's for many years tenanted the mansion of this manor, Mr. James Lypeatt being the last, who died here in 1790, his nephew, Mr. Thomas Foord, having afterwards resided in this district.

The manor of *Shourt*, in this parish, is mentioned by Milbourne as belonging to the dean and chapter of Canterbury, though we cannot learn any thing for certain concerning it, except that the dean and chapter possessed rents here, called *Shourt's rents*.

Swaycliffe is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Westbere. The church, which is very small, is dedicated to St. John the Baptist, and consists of one aisle and a chancel, having at the west end a slim spire steeple, covered with shingle. No monuments or inscriptions adorn this structure.

The church has always been appendant to the manor of Swaycliffe, and as such, was under the patronage of Earl Cowper. It is a rectory, and valued in the king's books at £11 9 4; the

tenths at £1 2 11½. In 1583 the estimation was £60, the communicants being forty-one; in 1640 they were the same, and the value £50 4 6.

In 1821 there were thirteen dwellings in the parish of Swaycliffe; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 78, females 65, making a total of 143 souls.

BLEANE,

Or, Cosmus Bleane, styled in all judicial proceedings *St. Cosmus, and Damian in the Bleane*, is the next parish southward from Swaycliffe, which latter name it assumed from the two saints to whom the church is dedicated, as well as from its situation in the ancient forest of Bleane. This district is in a wild country, enveloped by woods, and is environed by large tracts of rough land. The turnpike road from Canterbury to Whitstaple runs along the western side of the parish, and reaches as far as the half-way house on that road, and from Denstrand Common to the brook, next to St. Stephen's parish, eastward; being about three miles in breadth. There is no village here, but three small commons or heaths, the Whitstaple road running over one, called Hoad common. On the eastern side of that last mentioned, is Hoad court, the greater part of which has been pulled down, and the remainder converted into a farm-house. On the east side of Bleane common was formerly a house called Amery court, being a corruption from Almonry court, having been given in alms to St. Sepulchre's nunnery, and was the property of the Rev. Mr. Boucherie, who died in 1789. The northern part of this parish is wholly coppice wood, among which is a considerable part of the great tract called Clowes wood, belonging jointly to Sir Edward Dering, and Sir Rowland Wynne, barts. It was anciently called *Chese*, and ranked a manor in the reign of Edward III. being then possessed by a family of its own name. On the west side of the parish is the estate of Goodman's, which formerly belonged to Sir John Routh, of Brenley, and afterwards to the Fanewell's, of Boughton, of whom it was purchased in 1741 by the Rev. Julius Deedes, whose grandson, William Deedes, esq. of St. Stephen's, sold it in 1796 to Mr. William Cantis, of Canterbury.

The Manor of Bleane, called in Domesday *Blehem*, was, at the general survey, under the Conqueror, part of the posses-

sions of Hamo de Crevequer, usually styled in the records of that period, *Hamo Vicecomes*, which title he acquired from having been appointed *vicecomes*, or sheriff of the county, an office he held until his death in the reign of Henry I. when this property was entered in Domesday under the title of his lands.

Hamo de Crevequer, a descendant of the above, possessed this manor under Richard I., and was in ancient deeds called Sir Hamo de Blen. He died in the reign of Henry III. leaving Robert, his grandson, his heir, who held it by knight's service; but, espousing the cause of the discontented barons, this manor was seized, with the residue of his estates, and remained in the crown till granted to one of the family of Badlesmere. Bartholomew de Badlesmere, of Leeds, possessed it under Edward II. who likewise associating with the rebellious barons, was taken prisoner, conveyed to Canterbury, and executed at the gallows of Blean, within this manor. The estate was afterwards restored to his son, Giles de Badlesmere, who died in the reign of Edward III. leaving his four sisters coheirs; when, upon a partition of their inheritance, it was allotted to Margery, wife of William lord Roos, of Hamlake. She survived her husband, and granted her interest in the same to Thomas de Wotton, and Robert de Denton, which was confirmed by her only surviving son, Thomas lord Roos, of Hamlake. Thomas de Wotton was master of the hospital of St. Thomas the martyr, of Eastbridge, in Canterbury, when the manor remained vested in that hospital, having escaped the suppression of such foundations under Henry VIII, and Edward VI. A court-leet and court-baron is held for this manor.

If this estate ever possessed a court lodge or mansion, it has been destroyed time out of mind, as that of Hoad court, hereafter mentioned, has been the only one belonging to both these manors for a long series of years, they having been equally united, if indeed they were ever separated, and should, therefore, be more properly styled the MANOR OF BLEANE, OR HOTHE COURT.

HOTHE, *or* HOADE COURT, so called from its situation close to the hothe, or common, is a manor lying in the south-east part of this parish, once the estate of Sir John de la Lee, who, in the reign of Edward III. gave it to Thomas de Wotton, and his suc-

cessors, masters of the hospital of Eastbregge. It so remained till the latter end of the reign of Elizabeth, when Dr. Lause, prebend of Canterbury, made a beneficial lease of this manor, with a reserved rent of £48 per annum for himself, to his brother Fermyn Lause, for the term of three lives. He died in 1594, and by will devised his interest in the above lease to John Boys, esq. and Richard Grove, of Eastry; in consequence of which, Fermyn Lause conveyed the lease to them, and the sole interest became vested in John Boys, esq. of St. Gregory's, a man who ranked high in the profession of the law. He was steward to five archbishops, recorder of Canterbury, judge of the chancery court of the Cinque Ports, and M. P. for Sandwich and Canterbury; and also founded Jesus, or Boys' hospital, in Northgate, Canterbury. He was the youngest son of William Boys, esq. of Nonington, and bore for his arms, *Or, a griffin, segreant sable,* within a *bordure gules.* He frequently resided at Hoade court, of which he died possessed in 1612, without issue, though twice married, and was buried in the north aisle of Canterbury cathedral, where his monument and effigies remain. He devised his interest in the lease of this manor to his nephew, Thomas Boys, of Canterbury, with remainder to his son, and it continued in their descendants down to Colonel John Boys, who died in 1748, leaving two daughters coheirs. Elizabeth married the Rev. Charles Wake, and Anne the Rev. Osmund Beauvoir, who respectively, in right of their wives, became jointly entitled to the lease of this manor, but, after the lapse of some years, a partition being made, it was wholly allotted to the former, who held it for three lives, from the master of the hospital of Eastbridge, upon whose death, in 1796, his interest became vested in the Rev. John Honywood, his son in law.

In the rentals of the manor of Blean, mention is made of the payment of gate silver, which appears to have been for the repairs of the gates leading to and from the Blean, to prevent the cattle from straying.

Well Court, usually called *Wild Court,* is a manor situated near the northern boundaries of this parish, the house being partly in this, as well as that of St. Stephen's. It is styled in ancient records *Ebolestone,* or *Wells Court,* and was once part of the possessions of the family of At Lese, one of whom, Sir Richard At Lese, died possessed of it in 1394. It then descended

to his two nieces, daughters and coheirs of his brother Marcellus At Lese, when Lucy, the eldest, married, first, John Norton, esq., and secondly, William Langley, esq. of Knolton, and had this manor as part of her portion, entitling both her husbands, in succession, to the inheritance; and having had issue by both, they afterwards shared this manor between them. The property continued in that state till the reign of Henry VIII. when Thomas Langley alienated his part to his relation Sir John Norton, owner of the other moiety, of which he died possessed, and was succeeded by his natural son, Thomas Green, whose two grandsons, Thomas and George, alienated the estate to John Best. In that name the fee of it continued till the latter end of the last century, when it passed, by assignment, to the Lovelace's, thence to the Wild's, and afterwards to William Rooke, esq. of St. Lawrence. From the latter name it went to one Fleet, who died possessed of it in 1712; and, bequeathing the estate to his cousin, Thomas Fleet, of Bleane, by the limitations of the above will it devolved to Mr. Thomas Fleet, who afterwards resided there.

Botelers, otherwise *Boteler's Court*, is a manor nearly in the centre of this parish, which, under Edward III. was, with the manors of Chestfield and Cluse, now called Clowes, held by knight's service by the same owners. It soon after was possessed by the Boteler's, whence it derived the name of *Boteler's Court*, and so remained until sold to one of the Roper's, of St. Dunstan's, near Canterbury. It so continued until the year 1723, when it passed in like manner as that of Chestfield, in Swaycliffe, to Sir Edward Dering, and Sir Rowland Wynne, barts. who became joint proprietors of the same.

This parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Westbere. The church, dedicated to *Saints Cosmus* and *Damianus*, is very small, consisting only of one aisle and a chancel, in the latter of which is a memorial for John Boys, esq. of Hoad court, who died 1660, and a mural monument for John Boys, esq. of Hoad, who married the daughter of Sir Richard Head, in 1710; arms quarterly, Boys impaling Head. This structure contains many other memorials of less note.

The vicarage was valued in the king's books at £10, the yearly tenths being £1, and in the year 1537 there were ninety-

four communicants, and in 1588 it was estimated at £40, the communicants being 129. In 1640 the value was £65, communicants the same. It was subsequently estimated at £73 14 6, and finally at double that sum.

In 1821 there were eighty-two dwellings in the parish of Cosmus and Damian in the Blean; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 238, females 200, making a total of 438 souls.

THE HUNDRED OF FAVERSHAM

Lies the next eastward from that of Middleton, written in Domesday *Favneshant*, by which name it was called in the reign of Edward I.; the king, and the abbot of Faversham, being then lords of the same.

The Hundred of Faversham contains within its bounds the parishes of *Faversham, in part; Davington; Ore; Luddenham; Stone; Buckland; Norton; Newnham; Easling; Throwley; Stalisfield*, with *Boresfield; Badlesmere; Leveland; Sheldwick; Ospringe, in part; Preston; Goodnestone; and Harty, in the Isle of Shepey*, with the churches of those parishes, excepting that of Ospringe, and part of that of *Selling* and *Ulcomb*, the churches of which are in other hundreds. Two constables hold jurisdiction over this hundred.

The town, and part of the parish of Faversham, has long since been made a *separate jurisdiction* from this hundred, being within the limits and liberties of the Cinque Ports, and a member of the town of Dover, having its own constables and officers, under the jurisdiction of its own justices.

The Parish and Town of Faversham, was called, according to Lambarde, in Saxon, *Fafresham*, and *Fafresfeld*; in Domesday record *Favreshant*, and in some few others *Fefresham*. This parish adjoins the high London road southward, at the forty-seventh milestone, and extends to the creek on the opposite side of the town, the houses on the south side reaching to within two hundred yards of the road. The parish includes the north side of the London road, from the above milestone westward, almost as far as the summit of Judde hill; and the liberties of the town extend as far westward as the rivulet of Ospringe street. Thus the parish intervenes and entirely separates that part of Ospringe parish at the northern boundary, wherein are the storekeepers, and houses of the royal mills, with

a portion of the offices and gardens appertaining thereto. At the east end of Ospringe street, within Faversham parish, and the liberties of the town, is a handsome mansion erected by Mr. Bonnick Lypeatt, who resided there till his death, in 1789. He left two daughters coheirs, one of whom married Mr. C. Brooke, of London, and the other Captain Gosselin, of the Lifeguards. It was afterwards occupied by John Mayor, esq.

The northern part of the parish lies very low, and adjoins the marshes, of which there is a very large tract. The surrounding country presents a fine extensive level, the fields being of great extent, and mostly unencumbered by trees or hedge-rows, the lands being fertile, and highly cultivated, composing a part of that fruitful vale, extending almost from Sittingbourne to Boughton Bleane. The grounds adjoining the upper parts of the down are mostly hop plantations, of a rich growth, but some have been converted into orchards. At the south-east extremity of the parish are several chalk-pits, the most noted of which is called *Hegdale pit*, many conjectures having been formed as to the use of the same: some conceiving they were made by the digging of chalk for the building of the abbey, as well as manuring the lands; and others, that the English Saxons dug these caverns or pits as places of refuge in the winter, for themselves and families, and to secure their property from the researches of the enemy. Near the west end of the bridge is a strong *chalybeate spring*, which, on trial, has been found to be equal to that of Tunbridge Wells.

In the year 1774 a most remarkable fish was caught on Faversham Flats, called *mola salviani*, or the *sun fish*, which weighed about nineteen pounds and a half, and was two feet in diameter. This fish is very rarely met with in our narrow seas.

The spot has given title to several eminent families, among which is that of Sondes, Sir George, M P. of Lees court, in Sheldwick, having been created in the reign of Charles II. in 1676, *Earl of Faversham*, Viscount Sondes, of Lees court, and baron of Throwley for the term of his life, with remainder to Thomas lord Duras, baron of Holdenby. He left two daughters, coheirs; Mary, married to Lewis lord Duras, and Catherine, to Lewis Watson, lord Rockingham, who died in 1677.

Lewis lord Duras, was descended from Lewis de Durfort, brother to the duke de Duras, in France, and created Baron

Duras, of Holdenby, in 1672, being then captain of the guard to the duke of York, in the reign of Charles II.; this creation he gained by his eminent services performed towards that prince, in the seafight against the Dutch, in 1665. Upon the death of George earl of Faversham, his father-in-law, in 1678, he succeeded by entail to that title, and in the reign of James II. was installed knight of the garter. In 1688 he was made general of the king's army, at which post he continued at the revolution, and died in 1709, on which the title became extinct.

Erengard Melusina Schuylenberg, duchess of Munster, in Ireland, was, in the year 1719, created *Countess of Faversham*, baroness of Glassenbury, and duchess of Kendal, and, in 1723, princess of Erbestein, in Germany; on whose death the titles became extinct.

Anthony Duncombe, only surviving son of Anthony Duncombe, was created *Earl of Faversham*, baron of Downton, in Wiltshire, under George II. in 1763; when, dying without male issue, the title became extinct.

There have been many persons of note *natives of this place: Hamo de Faversham*, a learned Franciscan friar, was baron here, and became provincial of his order, first in England, and afterwards at Rome; he died, advanced in years, at Anagina, in Italy, anno 1244;

Simon de Faversham is mentioned as having been the pastor of the British church, in the county of Kent;

Adam de Faversham was archdeacon of Essex in 1271;

William de Faversham was commissioned by Edward I. to visit the royal chapel of Hastings;

And *Simon de Faversham* was chancellor of the University of Oxford, anno 1304.

There was also a family of this name, several of whom lie buried in the church of Faversham.

Henry Page, esq. of Faversham, was commander-in-chief of the navy of the Cinque Ports, in the reign of Henry IV. when he took 120 French ships, deeply laden; he died in the reign of Henry VI. and lies buried in this church.

John Wilson, one of the most noted musicians in England, was constituted doctor of music, at Oxford, in 1644, having been born at Faversham in 1595; he died in 1673, aged 78.

From the several discoveries made of Roman antiquities, in

the neighbourhood, it is evident the place could not be unknown to that people during their stay in this island, although no mention is made of the town by any writer at the period in question; it also appears, that even in the time of the Saxons this was a place of small consequence, notwithstanding it then constituted part of the royal demesnes, which is substantiated by a charter of Cenulph king of Mercia, anno 812, wherein it is styled *the king's little town of Fefresham.* It was, however, of sufficient note, in the time of King Alfred, on the first division of this county into small districts, to confer its name on the hundred wherein it is situated. Lambarde, Camden, and Leland say, that King Athelstan held *a Parliament*, or *meeting of his wise men at Faversham*, about the year 903, (we rather conceive 930,) by which assembly several laws were enacted.

Faversham continued part of the ancient demesnes of the crown of this realm at the general survey of Domesday, wherein it is entered under the title of *Terra Regis*, that is, the king's ancient demesne.

The manor of Faversham, with the hundred appurtenant thereto, remained in the crown till the beginning of the reign of Stephen, when it was granted to William de Ipre, a foreigner, for his faithful services against the Empress Maude, that king also creating him Earl of Kent. However, in a few years afterwards, resolving to found an abbey here, he with his queen, Matilda, about the year 1147, exchanged the manor of Lillechirch for this estate and hundred, and founded the abbey at a small distance from the town of Faversham, appointing Clarembald, prior of Bermondsey, to be abbot of his new foundation, dedicated to St. Saviour; for the support of which, that monarch granted to the fraternity the manor of Faversham, with its appurtenances, in perpetual alms, as may be seen by the charter.

By the munificence of the royal founder, this abbey was soon completed, the queen frequently residing at St. Augustine's, Canterbury, in order that she might give the necessary directions. The church seems to have been finished before the year 1151, when Queen Matilda died, and was buried there, as was also Eustace earl of Bolougne, her eldest son. King Stephen himself died at the latter end of the year 1154.

His successor, Henry II. at the request of his kinsman,

William earl Warren, confirmed this manor, with its appurtenances, to the brotherhood, in perpetual alms; which grant was continued under King John and Henry III. Soon after the above-mentioned period, the brotherhood seem to have changed their order from that of Clugni to the rule of St. Benedict, when it seems, though by what means does not appear, that this abbey was sunk into an abject state of poverty, the abbot and convent being so much in debt, that the king, to preserve them from ruin, took them and all their lands under his especial protection, committing the whole to the charge and management of Fulk Peyforer and Hamon Doges, for the discharge of their debts, affording them a necessary support during that lapse of time.

Notwithstanding this humiliating situation, the abbot of Faversham held his abbey and lands, consisting of sixteen knight's fees, of the king in chief, and, *by the tenure of barony*, was a lord of Parliament, being obliged, on receiving the king's writ of summons, to attend the same. Selden tells us he was called to twelve several Parliaments, in the reigns of Kings Edward I. and II.; and it is supposed, that the length and trouble of the journey, with the expense attending the same, might serve as the excuses alleged by him, and the reason for his being omitted in all future writs of summons. Coke, in his Comments upon Littleton, says, there were in England 113 monasteries, founded by the several kings, which were held *per baronium*.

Edward I. granted to the abbot and convent *free warren* within all their demesne lands in this manor; and Edward II. confirmed to them the manor, with other lands and liberties. In the reign of Richard II. A.D. 1384, the spiritualities of this abbey, within the diocese of Canterbury, were valued at £78 11 2, and the temporalities at £155 6 2.

Clarembald, prior of Bermondsey, received his benediction, as abbot of Faversham, from Archbishop Theobald, November 11, 1147, at the high altar of the church of Canterbury, having first made his profession of canonical obedience to the archbishop and his successors, at which ceremony were present, Queen Matilda, with the bishops of Worcester, Bath, Exeter, and Chichester.

This profession of canonical obedience was afterwards con-

stantly made by his successors to the several archbishops, from whom they then received their benediction ; and it was the office of the archdeacon, either in person, or by his official, to install the abbot; for which, his fees were the abbot's palfrey, and to stay at the abbey for two nights and a day, at the expense of the latter, as well as to have meat and drink for ten of his suite, if he so thought fitting. The list of the *abbots of Faversham* may be seen in the 1st vol. of Browne Willis's Mitred Abbeys, and in Lewis's History of Faversham. They were all men of sanctity and exemplary behaviour, but as their conduct was in general confined to the internal government of their monastery, any account of them would be uninteresting to the reader. It will be sufficient, therefore, to mention the last abbot, who was the twenty-first in succession from its institution, being John Shepey, otherwise Castelocke, who had the king's writ for restoring the temporalities of this abbey, February 17, in the reign of Henry VII. Castelocke was his family name, though he changed it to that of Shepey, on receiving the tonsure, as was usual on such occasions. His name is registered among those divines who met in St. Paul's, in 1529, to give their opinion concerning the king's marriage, when the abbot pronounced its illegality. In the 26th year of that reign, 1534, the abbot of Faversham, the prior, the sacrist, and four monks, signed the act of accession, which is the last public instrument we meet with relating to this monastery, prior to its dissolution. When the general storm fell on the religious houses throughout the kingdom, this abbot and his convent withstood, for a considerable time, the threats and menaces of the monarch, as well as every art resorted to for the purpose of inducing them to surrender the abbey and its possessions ; but as their characters and behaviour were irreproachable, the king's emissaries had no pretence whatsoever to enforce it. The abbot pleaded that his monastery was of royal foundation, and that King Stephen, with his queen, and son, were entombed therein ; and that, in compliance with the design of the foundation, continual suffrages and commendations, by prayer, were there offered, for the souls of the founders and their heirs, with all Christians whatsoever. If, therefore, they were found negligent and careless in those duties, the king, as lord and heir of the founder, had a right to admonish them ; and in case of want of reformation, to take the

possession and abbey into his own hands. Upon a trifling pretext of this kind, the abbot and convent were obliged at length to comply with the mandate of the king's emissaries, and surrender their abbey, with all its lands, possessions, immunities, and privileges, to Richard Layton, LL. D. one of the masters of Chancery, commissioned for that purpose by an instrument presented to them ready drawn up, to which they put their common seal, in the chapter-house, on the 8th July, in the year 1538. It was signed by the abbot and eight of the religious, and confirmed by the general words of the act, which afterwards passed.

The abbot had a pension of 100 marks for his maintenance, to hold for his life, or till promoted to one or more benefices, of the same or greater yearly value. Eight of the monks had also yearly pensions, the largest of which was 100s.; several of those charges remaining in force so late as the year 1553. In the reign of Henry VII. the yearly revenues of this abbey were £253 16 10½ clear annual income, or £355 15 2 total annual revenue.

The arms of the abbey were, *gules and azure, three demi-lions passant guardant, conjoined to three demi-ships hulls, a crosier erect, in the middle all or.* Soon after the surrender of the monastery, the king ordered the principal part to be pulled down; and the state of the ruined buildings of the abbey, about one century ago, may be gathered from Mr. Southouse, who tells us, in his Monasticon, that in the sacristy stood the abbey church, but that it was so totaly demolished, that not a single stone was left to inform posterity where it had stood. There were two chapels belonging to the same, one dedicated to St. Mary, and the other called *the Petie Rood,* or *Cross chapel.* The refectory then remained entire, and was made use of as a storehouse, which Sir G. Sondes afterwards pulled down. On the east part of that structure stood the abbot's lodge, containing two chambers, the ceilings of which were of oaken wainscot. On the west side of the refectory was a stone building, opening with two doors, which was, most probably, the interlocutory, or parlour, to which the monks retired after their meals. The kitchen, which is now totally rased to the ground, stood contiguous to the well; therein was a mantel-piece of timber, thirty

feet long, the foundation, being of stone, was dug up, in 1652, to help pave the broad street, in the town, called Court street; there was also an arched vault, which served as a drain or sewer, and likewise a *calefactory*, where the monks were used to warm themselves. Besides these buildings, many other offices existed, of which some remains were then apparent. The stables belonging to the abbey stood in the abbey close, at some distance from the other offices, among which was one called the *palfrey stable*, for the abbot's nags and geldings, which stood on the ground where Sir George Sondes afterwards built the present farm-house; but there are now scarcely any remains of the ruins of this once famous abbey left. The two gate-houses stood for some time, but becoming dangerous through age, were taken down. The oratory, or chapel, belonging to the almonry, was standing some years ago, in a little meadow, and converted into a dwelling-house, as also the porter's lodge.

Among the wills proved in the prerogative-office, in Canterbury, mention is made of several persons having been buried in the abbey church, and, among others, Theobalde Evias, of Faversham, widow, who by will, in 1479, ordered her body to be interred in this monastery; and, among other bequests, devised: for the erecting a new window in the chapter-house, 20s.; and to the monastery, her great cloth of tapestrywork, to do worship to God in their presbyterye, as well as on the sepulchre next the high altar there, on high days: and to the same, likewise, her vestment of green velvet, embroidered, with its appurtenances; a chalice, two cruets, a bell, and a *paxbrede*, all of silver, to the intent that they should serve only in her chapel there. She also ordered, that there should be embroidered on the said vestment, *Orate pia Theobalde Evias*; and devised, that her cross of gold, which she wore about her neck, should be offered to the shrine of St. Richard, in Chychester; her beads of gold, to St. John, hys hed in *Amyas*; and her ring of gold, with the rubye, to the sepulchre of the *three kings of Coleyne*. She moreover ordered her executors to purchase lands to the value of £10 above all charges or reprizes; and with the yearly rents and profits thereof, she willed that the reparations of her almshouses be kept, the renewing of the bedding of the said house be made, and the reward of him that should have the

governance and oversight of the same, to be yearly paid; and this ordinance touching the said almshouse to be made sure as firm as by her executors and counsel could be.

When the church of the monastery was demolished, the body of King Stephen was, for the value of the lead in which it was enclosed, taken out, and is said to have been cast into the neighbouring creek, and, most probably, those of the queen and prince met with the same fate. However, the report of the inhabitants has been, that the king's body was afterwards interred in the parish-church, but whereabouts is not known.

The abbey being thus, with the manor and all its possessions, surrendered into the king's hands, the whole, with the adjoining lands, so remained but a short time, as Henry VIII. granted the site, with certain messuages, lands, meadows, &c. to Sir Thomas Cheney, warden of the Cinque Ports, to hold *in capite* by knight's service, who alienated them to Mr. Thomas Ardern, gent. of Faversham, who was afterwards basely assassinated. The house wherein this gentleman was murdered adjoined the entrance gateway of the abbey, the particulars of which sanguinary deed are thus quoted by Jacob, from the wardmote book of Faversham.

"This yere, (anno Dom. 1550,) the 15 day of Februari, being Sondaye, one Thomas Ardern, of Faversham aforesaid, gentleman, was heynously murdered in his own parlour, about seven of the clock in the night, by one Thomas Morsby, a taylor of London, late servant to Sir Edward North, knight, chancellor of the Augmentations, father-in-law unto Alice Ardern, wife of the said Thomas Ardern; and by one Black Will, of Calyce, (Calais,) a murderer, which murderer was privily sent for to Calyce by the earnest sute, appointment, and confederecye of the said Alice Ardern and Thomas Morsby, one John Green, a taylor, and George Bradshaw, a goldsmith, inhabitants of Faversham aforesaid, to the intent to murder the said Ardern, her husband; which Alice the said Morsby did not only carnally keep in her house in this town, but also fed him with delicate meats, and sumptuous apparell, all which things the said Ardern did well know, and wilfully did permit and suffer the same, by reason whereof she procured her said husband's death, to th' intent to have married with the said Morsby: and so first, she made of her said counsel, the said Thomas Morsby, and one

Cicely Pounder, his sister, Michael Saunderson, taylor, and Elizabeth Stafford; which Michael and Elizabeth were the dayly servants to the said Thomas Ardern; and the abettors and counsellors to the said murder, were the aforesaid, and John Green, George Bradshaw, and William Blackbourne, painter; which Bradshaw sett th' aforesaid murderer at Calyce; and the same murderer came over to Faversham, and brought with him a co-adjutor, named Loose-bagg, who also was made a counsel to the murder; so that Ardern was most shamefully murdered as he was playing at tables friendly with the said Morsby; for sodenlye came out of a dark house, adjoining to the said parlour, the 'foresaid Black Will, whom she and her 'complices had bestowed previes before, and came behind the said Ardern's back, threw the said napkyn over his head and face, and strangled him; and forthwith the said Morsby stept to him and strake him with a great pressing iron upon the skull to the braine, and immediately drew out his dagger, which was great and broad, and therewith cut the said Ardern's throat; being at the death of him the said Alice, his wife, Michael Saunderson, and Elizabeth Stafforde: and after that he was thus murdered, he was carried out of the said parlour into the aforesaid dark house; and when the said Black Will had holpen to lay him there, he returned forthwith to the said Cicely Pounder's house, and there received, for his thus doing, the sum of eight pounds in money, which was there appointed for his reward; and immediately he departed from Faversham, so that he could not justly be heard of since that time; and he being thus departed with his reward, Cicely Pounder went to the said Ardern's house, and did helpe to bear the dead corps out into a meadow there, commonly called the Almery Croft, on the back side of the said Ardern's garden; and about eleven of the clock the said Sonday night, the said Ardern was found where they had laid him, in the said meadowe: whereupon the said Ardern's house was searched, and thereupon his blood was found, that it was manifest and well approved that he was slayne in his house.

"Whereupon the said Alice Ardern, Michael Saunderson, and Elizabeth Stafford, were apprehended, and attached of felonye, and also the said Morsby and Bradshaw; but the aforesaid John Green, William Blackbourne, and George Loose-bagg, escaped at that time; and the aforesaid Alyce Arden, Thomas

Morsby, Cicely Pounder, Michael Saunderson, George Bradshaw, and Elizabeth Stafford, were indicted and arreygned within the said town and liberties of Faversham, in the Abbey hall, which the said Ardern had purchased, and there adjudged to dye; that is, to wytt: the said Alice Ardern to be burned at Cantorburye, and the said Bradshaw to be there hung in chains by command of the king's most honourable counsel; and the aforesaid Thomas Morsby, and his sister, judged to be hanged in Smithfield, in London; and the aforesaid Michael Saunderson to be drawn and hanged in chains within the liberties of Faversham; and the foresaid Elizabeth Stafford to be burned within the liberties of the said town; all which was accomplyshed and performed accordingly.

"And about the last end of the moneth of July then next following, the foresaid John Green was apprehended and taken in Cornwall, and brought again by men of that country to Faversham, where, shortly after, he was judged to be hanged in chains, within the liberties there."

This murder was the foundation of the theatrical piece, entitled "Arden of Faversham, a true Tragedy," printed in 1592, and generally attributed to Shakspeare.

The said Arden of Faversham died possessed of the above-mentioned site, leaving an only daughter and heir, Margaret, who afterwards married Thomas Bradborne, gent., and he had possession granted him, in the reign of Elizabeth; soon after which he died, when his wife, Margaret, again held this property in her own right. She dying in that reign, it was found that her son, Nicholas Fathers, otherwise Bradborne, was her son and heir, who sold this estate to John Finch, gent. when he resided in a house situated on the north side of the monastery, and ultimately alienated these premises to Thomas and Robert Streynsham, and Richard Dryland. They then became the property of George Streynsham, and he leaving two daughters, one married Sir Edward Master, and the other Mr. Appleford; when the latter entitled her husband to this estate; after which it passed to her descendant, Edward Appleford, esq. of Winchester. He sold this property to Sir George Sondes, of Lees court, in Sheldwich, who leaving two daughters; the youngest, marrying the earl of Rockingham, entitled that nobleman to this manor and hundred, with the demesne lands, which des-

cended in the same line as Lees court down to Lord Sondes. The house of Ardern, which formerly adjoined the abbey, is still standing.

Several of the sovereigns of England have visited Faversham, and made a temporary stay there. In 1515 the sister of Henry VIII. sojourned there, when the expense of entertaining her with "brede and wine," was, according to the chamberlain's account, 7s. 4d.

Henry VIII. and Queen Catherine of Arragon, visited this town in 1519, and the former, twice afterwards, when on the latter occasion he was presented with "two dozen capons, two dozen chickens, and a sieve of cherries," which are entered at £1 15 4.

Queen Elizabeth, Charles II., and James II., also paid the inhabitants of Faversham a visit, the latter having been taken off Shelness by some Faversham sailors, while attempting to escape after the landing of the prince of Orange, in 1688. During his stay at this place, the earl of Winchelsea visited him express on hearing of his detention, having been one of the most devoted attendants on James II. at the time his religious opinions drove him from his throne.

The free grammar school, said to have been founded by Elizabeth, was, in point of fact, only the revival of an endowment made in the reign of Henry VIII. by Dr. Cole. The lands he had devoted to this purpose were seized by Henry, and afterwards restored by Elizabeth.

Thomas Arden, previously mentioned, was mayor of Faversham in 1548. Independent of the account of the murder previously given, various details are handed down of that sanguinary transaction; and Baker, in his Chronicle, mentions that the body was discovered where it had been buried, in consequence of the grass not growing on that part of the earth over the limbs, the barren part thus making an outline of the form beneath. There is, however, no foundation whatever for that embellishment, as the mutilated body was found during the night on which the murder was committed.

There is a court-leet and court-baron held for this manor, which extends over the whole hundred, and contains within its bounds the town and parish of Faversham, the boroughs of Hartye, Ore, Ewell, Selgrave, Oldgoldyschelde, Chetham,

Brinnystone, Badlysmere, Oldeboudysland, Rode, Gravency, and Bourdfeld; and the lands of Monkendane, in the parish of Monketon.

Cooksditch is situated almost adjoining the east side of the town of Faversham, and was formerly the ancient seat of the family of the Dreylonds, or, as they were afterwards written, Drylands, who were of some note, and at different periods intermarried with several of the most eminent families in this county. In the reign of Henry VI., John Dryland was knight of the shire, whose armorial bearings were *Gules guttee de l'arme a fess nebulee argent.* John, son of Stephen Dreylond, resided here in the reign of Edward III. and demised land in a place called Crouch fields to William Makenade, who, in the deed, styles himself of Cokesditch. In his descendants the last-mentioned estate continued down to Richard Dryland, who resided here at the beginning of the reign of Henry VII. He was twice married, and left, by his first wife, Joan, one daughter, Catherine, who carried this inheritance in marriage to Reginald Norton, esq. of Lees court, in Sheldwich; who left two sons, Sir John, who was of Northwood, in Milton, and William Norton, to whom, by will, he devised Cookesditch. William married Margaret, daughter and heir of Mathew Martyn, by whom he was ancestor of the Norton's, of Fordwich, in this county; one of whom, in the reign of James I. alienated the property to the Parsons's, who not long after conveyed the same to one Ashton, whose daughter and heir, by marriage with Mr. Buck, entitled him to its possession, at the restoration of Charles II. In his descendants this estate continued till the beginning of the eighteenth century, when, by one of the name, it was alienated to Mr. Jenkin Gillow, whose nephew, Stephen, of St. Nicholas, in Thanet, died possessed of the property in 1774. He was succeeded by his son, Mr. Stephen Gillow, who rebuilt the mansion, and resided there until his death, in 1790; and in that family it still continues.

Langdon is a manor in this parish, which, in the reign of Richard II. was in the possession of Nicholas Potyn, who seems, by his will, to have devised it to his widow, Alicia, for her life; with remainder to his feoffees, William Makenade and Stephen Bettenham, and their heirs, in trust, that they should give and amortize this manor, then of the yearly value of £6 13 4, to

the wardens of Rochester bridge and their successors, for the use of the same. Richard II. granted his licence, by writ under the privy seal, for that purpose; where it continued for the repairs and maintenance of the bridge in question. A court-baron is held for this district.

Ewell manor is situated at the eastern extremity of the parish, next to Goodneston, and was, in the reign of Richard II. in the possession of the family of the Boteler's, of the adjoining parish of Graveney; in which name it remained, till Anne, daughter and heir of John Boteler, esq. conveyed it in marriage to John Martyn, one of the judges of the Common Pleas. He died possessed of this estate in 1436, leaving his widow again entitled to the same, who afterwards remarried Thomas Burgeys, esq. whom she also survived, and died herself in 1458. By her will she devised her manor of Ewell court to Richard Martyn, in tail, with remainder to her sons, Robert and John. This estate then became divided among several owners; when *one third part*, in the reign of Henry VIII. appears to have passed into the possession of John Cole, warden of All Souls college, who in that reign gave such portion of this manor, with the lands belonging thereto, in Faversham and Goodneston, to the abbot and convent of Faversham, in trust, for the maintenance of the school which he had founded in this parish. At the dissolution of the abbey, the estate, with its possessions, devolved to the crown, where Ewell manor remained vested, till Queen Elizabeth having, at the petition of the inhabitants, by her charter, again endowed the school, granted to the governors, for its support, all that was remaining in the hands of the crown, of its former endowment.

The other two third parts of Ewell manor, which included the court lodge, were, in the reign of Elizabeth, the property of Mr. Edward Fagge, gent. of Faversham, who died in 1618, leaving two daughters his coheirs. How this estate passed from them, we have not ascertained; but, in the reign of Charles II. they were become the property of John Pennington, of Agmondesham, in Bucks; who, in the year 1691, suffered a recovery of the same. His trustees, under his will, then sold the property, in 1723, under a decree of chancery, to Mr. Thomas Gillow, of St. Nicholas, in Thanet, when it became vested in Mrs. Gillow, widow of his grandson, Stephen Gillow, of Cooksditch gate.

The Manor of Kingsmill is a small estate, situated in the south-west part of this parish, which, in the reign of George II. belonged to Mr. John Ingham. In 1749 it was vested in Mathew Cox, esq. and afterwards in Richard Chauncy, esq. when his heirs sold it to the master general of the board of ordnance, who possessed the fee of this manor. A court-baron is held for this estate.

The town of Faversham is within the limits of the Cinque Ports, being esteemed a limb of the town of Dover, which ranks one of the said five ports. Of what antiquity these ports and ancient towns are, when enfranchised, or at what periods their members were annexed to the same, has not, with any certainty, been discovered; they are, therefore, held to enjoy all their earliest liberties and privileges as time out of mind, and by prescriptive right.

Notwithstanding this, it appears, however, certain that, under Edward the Confessor, the Cinque Ports were enfranchised with divers liberties, privileges, and customs peculiar to themselves; for the better conducting of which they had the establishment of one grand court, called the *Court of Shipway*, before adverted to, from its having been always held at a place of that name, near Hythe. All general business, relating to the whole community, was there transacted before the warden, as principal and chief of the whole. Nevertheless, although they acted jointly at Shipway, like a county-palatine, for the defence and liberty of the Cinque Ports, yet every particular corporation in each town acted severally and distinctly, according to its own privileges, charters, and customs, without any control or interference from this court, or the rest of the community.

The Cinque Ports, being, from their situation, most exposed to the depredations of enemies, were first incorporated for their own mutual defence, and afterwards endowed with great privileges, for the public defence of the nation, and the king's service. The force they were enjoined to raise for that purpose, was fifty-seven ships, properly furnished, for a certain number of days, to be ready at the king's summons, at their own charge; and, if the state of affairs required their assistance for any longer period, they were paid by the crown. This expense, in aftertimes, being found too burthensome for the Cinque Ports, several other towns were added as members of the same, to bear a part of the charge,

for which they were recompensed by a participation of their privileges and immunities. The whole was confirmed by *Magna Charta*, by the name of the *barons of the Cinque Ports;* and again by one general charter of King Edward I. which, by *inspeximus*, has received confirmation, and frequent additions from most of the succeeding kings and queens of this realm.

Faversham, styled both a *town* and a *port*, at different periods, in ancient records, *is a corporation by prescription.* In a charter, under the reign of Edward I. the barons of the same are acknowledged to have done good services for that prince, and his predecessors; and, in the same reign, there is an entry of the mayor and jurats assembling in their hallmote or portmote court, together with the lord abbot's steward, and there sealing a fine, with the seal of the town, of a messuage and garden in Faversham, according to the use and custom of the court; whereby it is evident that this court was of considerable antiquity at that time.

This town has been favored by the different kings of this country with no less than seventeen different charters, in addition to those granted from time to time to the Cinque Ports in general, confirming its ancient rights, and granting privileges. These were accorded from King Henry III., Edward I., Henry V. and VI., Edward IV., Henry VIII., and Edward VI. James II. confirmed the two last, with some alterations, but, as the charter in question was forced upon the town, at a considerable expense, no particular attention was paid to that instrument.

Before the dissolution of the abbey of Faversham, this town seems to have continued under a mixed form of jurisdiction. The abbot, as lord of the manor, was entitled to the same ample privileges that the kings of England, formerly its lords, had exercised within the same; all those became vested in the abbot by the special grant of the royal founder, King Stephen, and consequently the town, as being within the manor, was alike subject to the lord's jurisdiction over it.

However unwilling the inhabitants were to submit to the abbot's exercising these privileges, and interfering in the government of the place, their endeavours to oppose him produced no other effect than continued quarrels, and a bitter enmity towards the brotherhood, who, notwithstanding the contumelies heaped upon them, remained firm in the preservation of their rights.

Drawn by T.M.Baynes

Engraved by H.Adlard.

FAVERSHAM,

KENT.

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In the reign of Richard I. as well as under Edward III. a long contest arose between the inhabitants and the monks, which ended in favor of the abbot, the townsmen submitting to nominate annually three persons out of their body, to execute the office of mayor, and present them to the lord abbot, in his court or hall of pleas, in order that he might appoint one of them to that office.

The extreme poverty of the abbey soon after left the fraternity in a state of great humiliation, insomuch that the monks were totally unable to resist the innovations of their adversaries. The inhabitants of Faversham likewise opposed the religious of St. Augustine's monastery, near Canterbury, who were patrons of the church of Faversham; for, in the reign of Edward I. a dispute having arisen concerning the burial of a person, the whole commonality of both sexes rose upon the monks, committing all kinds of depredations; which riotous conduct cost them dear, as they in consequence lost their charter, for the renewal of which, and pardon for the above-mentioned amerciaments, they were fined 500 marks; the largeness of which sum, at that period, was not in consideration of the wealth of the place, but the enormity of the crime the inhabitants had committed.

Notwithstanding a solemn agreement entered into between the abbot and the townsmen, concerning the rights and privileges of both bodies, the same incessant litigations continued between them, one party being as resolute not to give up his right, as the other to withhold submission; however, resistance to the abbot's claim uniformly terminated in his favor, the inhabitants being compelled to pay an annual sum on the termination of the contest.

The town of Faversham is situated close to the east side of the navigable creek, which runs thence into the Swale. It consists of four principal streets, forming an irregular cross, that to the north being called Court, or Abbey street, leading to the site of what once constituted the abbey, being very broad and handsome. That to the south, leading to the London road, is called Preston street, from being within the boundaries of that parish. In the centre of the town is the market-place and guild-hall over the same, erected in 1574. The markets, which are plentifully supplied, are held weekly, and two fairs annually

upon the 25th of February, and the 12th of August, each lasting for three days.

Leland, in his Itinerary, so frequently before quoted, thus describes this place. "The towne is encluded yn one paroche, but that ys very large. Ther cummeth a creke to the towne that bereth vessels of xx tunnes, and a myle fro thens northest is a great bey, cawled Thorn, to discharge bygge vessels. The creke is fed with bakkewater that cummeth fro Ospringe."

In the reign of Elizabeth, from a return made by her command, it appears that there were then 380 inhabited houses. The principal shipping trade was carried on from this port, by six hoys, which went alternately every week to London with corn, the same amounting, in very plentiful seasons, to 40,000 quarters of every sort annually. The following was the state of the shipping in 1774, being the annual average of the imports and exports, for six years. Coasting vessels, exclusive of fishing smacks, twenty-nine, from 40 to 150 tons; coals imported, 12154 chaldrons; oysters exported to Holland and Flanders, in thirty-one vessels, 11,456 bushels; packs of wool, shipped for London and Exeter, 2573 ships, entered inwards from foreign parts; from France, with oyster brood, from four to seven; from Norway, with deals and timber, from five to nine; from Sweden, with tar and iron, from one to three; from Polish Prussia, with deals and timber, from one to three.

There is a *branch of the customs* established at Faversham, as one of the outports, under the direction of a collector, surveyor, &c. and of the excise-office, under a supervisor, whose authority extends over Sittingbourne, Milton, Herne, Whitstaple, and Reculver. There is also an assembly-room and a theatre in this place. Part of the town was first paved in 1549, and the remainder in 1636. In 1773 Faversham was laid open to the London road, by a spacious avenue, into Preston street, and a bridge erected over the stream at the bottom of West street; and, in 1789, an Act was passed for the paving, lighting, and watching of this place.

Dr. John Cole, one of the chaplains of the royal chapel of All Souls college, by indentures, in the reign of Henry VIII. conveyed to the convent and abbot of Faversham, lands and tene-

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FAVERSHAM CHURCH,

KENT.

ments in this, and the neighbouring parishes of Goodneston, Herne hill, and Leysdown, for the endowment of a school. Upon the dissolution of the abbey, the seminary in question became involved in the same ruin, till Queen Elizabeth remaining here for two nights, the authorities of the place seized that opportunity of soliciting her majesty to erect and endow a *grammar school,* to which she consented, and ordered it to be called the *free grammar school of Elizabeth, Queen of England, in Faversham.* It contains a library, first formed by Mr. Rawleigh, the master, and since increased by the gift of Mr. Mendfield, the mayor. In the school-room is a whole length portrait of the royal foundress, placed there by the late Edward Jacob, esq. F.R.A. Joshua Childrey, D.D. was master of this school at the time of the great rebellion, and so continued at the period of the restoration.

Two Charity Schools were established in 1716, for the clothing and instructing ten poor boys, and the same number of girls, of this town, which is continued to be supported by an annual subscription of the principal inhabitants, as well as other benefactions.

Faversham is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Ospringe. The church, which stands close to the east side of the town, was dedicated to the *assumption of our Lady of Faversham.* It is built in the form of a cross, being composed of flints, with quoins of ashlar stone. Until 1755, when it was pulled down, it had a large square castellated tower in the centre, and there still remains another low tower at the north side of the west front, upon which is erected a frame of timber, covered with shingle. In the reign of Henry VII. there was no steeple to this church, as we find that in 1464, Edward Thomasson, of this town, gave £60 towards the building a new steeple; and James Lawson, esq. a wealthy inhabitant, who died in 1794, bequeathed £1000 for the same purpose, when the corporation thereto added £500, which was paid by a rate levied for the erection of the steeple, the same being seventy-three feet high above the tower.

Behind the tower, within the outer walls, is a strong chamber of timber, formerly called *the treasory,* wherein, prior to the reformation, were carefully deposited the goods and ornaments of this church. Mr. Henry Hatch, by will, in 1533, gave a sum of

money, at the discretion of the mayor, for the building a new jewel-house for this church.

The structure seems to have been erected at the latter end of the reign of Edward I. or the beginning of that of Edward II. by a silver penny of one of those kings having been found under the basis of a pier which supported the middle tower. In the east window of the great chancel there remained some years ago, two shields of arms. In the year 1754, the body of the church being considered in a dangerous state, was taken down under the directions of Mr. George Dance, architect, of London, and rebuilt at the expense of £2,300, in addition to which £400 were expended on an organ, and £190 for ornaments, and the improvement of the great chancel, which, through age, was become ruinous. Upon the re-erection of this church, many of the tombs were removed, and among the monuments were those of Henry Hatch, merchant, who died in 1533; of Thomas Mendfield, in 1614; of John Fagge, esq. in 1508; and a memento for Thomas Southouse, esq. dated 1558, author of the *Monasticon Favershamiense*. The monuments and epitaphs are by far too numerous for insertion in this History, but may be found in Weever's Funeral Monuments, and in Harris's History of Kent. Previous to the reformation there were two chapels in the great chancel, one dedicated to the Holy Trinity, the other to St. Thomas, besides several altars in the aisles and chancels.

In the reign of Richard II. this church was valued at £36 13 4, yearly income. It remained with the vicarage as part of the possessions of the monastery of St. Augustine, till the final dissolution, when, passing to the crown, Henry VIII. settled both the church appropriate, with the advowson of the vicarage, upon his new founded dean and chapter of Canterbury. The vicarage of Faversham was valued in the king's books at £38 18 3, the yearly tenths being £2 13 9. In 1578 the communicants were 845; in 1640 the value was £100 per annum, and in 1732, including the Easter offerings, the same sum, the communicants being then 1500.

There have been considerable benefactions conferred upon this town, which has had no less than twenty-seven persons bequeathing sums for different charitable purposes, as well as donations to the same.

In 1821, the in-liberty and town of Faversham contained

639 dwellings; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 1870, females 2049, making a total of 3919 souls: and the out-liberty and parish, forty-four dwellings, containing 149 males, and 140 females, making a total of 289 souls.

Davington is the next parish westward of the town of Faversham, situated on the summit of the hill, on the opposite side of the Ospringe rivulet. The church and priory stand on the brow of the declivity on the south-east verge, and at a small distance is the little village of Davington, and the hall opposite, presenting conspicuous objects from the London road, and the neighbouring country. In this higher part, though not unpleasant, it is extremely unhealthy; the land chiefly pasturage, but lower towards Ore the soil is arable: there is a considerable quantity of wet swampy land towards the north-east, where the district is bounded by the Ospringe rivulet, with the Ore and Faversham creeks.

On the brow of the hill, near the eastern bounds of this parish, next to Faversham, there were discovered some years ago, in digging foundations for the royal powder-mills, more than twenty Roman urns, and vessels, of various sizes, formed of different coloured earths; and, in the environs of the spot, some coins of the Roman emperors, from Vespasian down to Gratian, whence it appears probable, that the site had once been a Roman burial-ground.

The paramount manor of Faversham claims jurisdiction over this parish, and *subordinate* to the same is the manor of Davington, which, in the reign of Stephen, was in the possession of Fulk de Newnham, who, in that reign, anno 1153, founded on the site of the same a Priory for nuns of the Benedictine order, which was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, when he gave this manor, among other lands, for their support and maintenance.

Henry II. took this foundation under his patronage, and Henry III. confirmed to the sisterhood all their possessions, with sundry liberties and privileges; which charter was pleaded by their attorney, Richard de Roylaund, in their behalf, in the reign of Edward I. when it appears, by the ledger book of the

priory, that John de Davington possessed lands in this parish in the reign of Henry III. and was a benefactor to the priory. In the same reign these nuns fell into great poverty, and being unable to keep up their establishment, gradually diminished from the number of twenty-six, till, in the reign of Henry VIII. the priory became quite deserted, and escheated to the crown, it being found that there were neither prioress or nuns to perform the offices established at its foundation.

The priory, with all its possessions, then devolved to the crown, and so remained till the 35th year of the above monarch, when he granted the site and precincts to Sir Thomas Cheney, who was then tenant of the whole, at the yearly rental of £20, to hold *in capite* by knight's service. He died in the reign of Elizabeth, leaving a son, Henry, afterwards Lord Cheney, of Tuddington, who alienated the site of this priory, with all lands belonging to the same in Davington, to John Bradbourn, who, two years afterwards, sold them to Avery Giles. His son, Francis, passed the estate by sale to Mr. John Edwards, who resided here, and died in 1631, leaving an only daughter, who conveyed the same in marriage to Mr. John Bode, gent. His grandson, John, possessed these estates at the period of the restoration of Charles II. and dying, left his widow possessed of the whole, who held a court-baron here in 1662. By a daughter and heir the property was then conveyed in marriage to Sir Edward Boys, of Fredville, who died possessed of the estate in 1700, when it passed to the families of the Sherwin's; the Wood's; and the Sayer's; and, in 1790, was sold to Thomas Bennet, esq. of Faversham, who possessed the manor and site of the priory. A court-baron is still held for this manor.

The priory joined the south side of the church, a great portion of which still remained some years ago, when it was made use of as a farm-house. The west front was almost entire, with the hall and refectory, wherein was the frame of the organ, with a gallery at one end, and part of the cloisters. The walls surrounding the court and orchard were nearly in their original state, but the whole building was again much shattered and torn to pieces by the terrible explosion of the powder-mills in 1781.

Davington Hall, or Court, was once accounted a manor, the ruins of the mansion still remaining, at a short distance

south-westward from the church. In the reign of Edward III. this seat constituted part of the possessions of the Strabolgie's, earls of Athol, David, the last earl, dying possessed of the same in the reign of Edward III. anno 1374. He left, by his wife, Elizabeth, two daughters his coheirs, when the youngest, Philippa, wife of John Halsham, of Sussex, carried the estate in marriage to her husband, whom she survived, and died in the reign of Richard II. possessing this manor. It then descended to her grandson, Sir Hugh Halsham, who, in the reign of Henry VI. passed it by sale to Mr. James Dryland, when his daughter and sole heir conveyed it in marriage, first to Sir Thomas Walsingham, of Scadbury, in Chisselhurst, and secondly to John Green, esq. She dying in the above reign, was succeeded by her son, Sir James Walsingham, who kept his shrievalty at this manor of Davington, in the 12th year of Henry VII. His son, Sir Edmund, of Scadbury, in the beginning of the succeeding reign, passed the property by sale to Ralph Symonds, who died possessed of Davington hall under Henry VIII. By his heirs, under Queen Elizabeth, the estate was alienated to the Coppinger's, who, in the reign of James I. mortgaged it to one Freeman; when they both subsequently joined in the sale of the same to Mr. John Milles, of Norton. He afterwards resided here, and his only daughter, Anne, in 1627, at the early age of twelve years, conveyed this manor in marriage to John Milles, esq. of Hampshire, who was keeper of Rochester castle. He was succeeded by his son, who pulled down the ancient mansion, and after having fitted up part as a sufficient dwelling for the farmer or occupant of the same, passed it by sale to Thomas Twisden, esq. of Bradbourne, in East Malling, in whose descendants this estate of Davington hall continued down to Sir Roger Twisden, who died in October 1779, leaving his lady, Rebecca, with child. The offspring proving a daughter, he was succeeded at Bradbourne by his next surviving brother, Sir John Papillon Twisden, bart.; but the estate of Davington hall was settled by Sir Roger on his lady, Rebecca, who possessed this manor.

Davington is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Ospringe. The church, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, is a small building

containing two aisles. The west door displays an elegant circular arch of stone, enriched with pillars on either side, having a variety of ornaments over the same; the steeple is square, with a pointed top standing at the west corner. It was erected adjoining to, and indeed under, one roof, with the priory to which it served as a conventual church. At the farther end of the south aisle, near the altar, was an ancient tomb in the wall, which, when opened, was found to contain a manuscript book among the bones, but, on the same being exposed to the air, it immediately crumbled to dust. In the north aisle, near the door, was another tomb, containing many bones, apparently of children about eight or nine years of age.

The priory having escheated to the crown, with all its possessions, wherein this church was included, the king granted the whole immunities to Sir Thomas Cheney, when it continued in the same line of succession as the priory itself down to Mr. Sherwin.

The proprietor claims exemption for this church from the jurisdiction of the archdeacon, or any other ordinary; and regularly opposes their visitations.

It was certified as a curacy, of the clear yearly value of £20.

In 1821 there were thirty-one dwellings in the parish of Davington; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 67, females 84, making a total of 151 souls.

Ore, or *Oare*, lies the next parish, north-westward, from Davington, and is so called from its etymology in the Saxon language, signifying a fenny or marshy district.

It is situated very low, at the edge of the marshes, and consequently but little known or frequented, being extremely unhealthy; but the lands are rich and fertile, the waters of the Swale constituting its northern boundaries: on the south it rises up towards Bysing wood, from which it is distant about a mile; and on a slight ascent is the church and Ore court, being also about one mile to the north-eastward of the marshes.

The manor of Ore was part of the vast possessions of Odo bishop of Bayeux, under the general title of whose lands it was

entered in Domesday record. Upon the disgrace of that prelate, the manor was held *in capite* of the king by Adam de Port, of whose heirs it was afterwards held by Arnulf Kade, who gave this manor, with that of Stalisfield, to the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem. The manor of Ore continued part of the possessions of that fraternity till the general dissolution of their hospital, and remained in the hands of the crown till Edward VI. granted it to Edward lord Clinton and Say, who, the next year, reconveyed it to the king. How it afterwards passed from the crown we have not been able to ascertain, but it ultimately devolved to the possession of the family of the Monin's; and thence by sale to that of the Short's; one of which name, Samuel Short, esq. owned it in the year 1722. It then continued in his descendants down to Mr. Charles Short, who died in Jamaica, when it became vested in Mr. Humphrey Munn, gent. in right of his wife, Lydia Short; after which it passed by sale to Mr. Bonnick Lypeatt, who dying in 1789, left his two daughters coheirs. One of the latter married Mr. Charles Brooke, of London, and the other, Mr. Gosselin, when they became successively entitled to this estate. A court-leet and court-baron is held for this manor.

Ore is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Ospringe. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is small, consisting of one aisle and a chancel. It was anciently accounted only as a chapel to that of Stalisfield, and belonged to the priory of St. Gregory, in Canterbury. It remained part of the possessions of that institution till the dissolution, when it was exchanged by Henry VIII. with the archbishop of Canterbury for the site of the dissolved abbey of St. Radigund, near Dover. About the year 1755, this living was augmented by the governors of Queen Anne's bounty in the sum of £200.

In 1821 there were thirty-four dwellings in the parish of Ore; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 109, females 88, making a total of 197 souls.

Luddenham is the next parish, north-westward, from Ore, and was, in the reign of the Conqueror, called *Cildresham*, by which name it is entered in Domesday record.

It is situated about a mile northward of the high London road from Judde hill; the southern part extending as high as Byzing wood, part of which is within its boundaries. It lies low, and is flat, the arable lands consisting of about 396 acres; the upland, meadow, and pasture, comprising 200; which latter are rich and fertile; nearly one half of this parish consists of marsh lands that reach to the waters of the Swale, which constitute its northern boundary.

The church stands nearly in the centre; and the parsonage house, which is moated, about a mile southward, near Byzing wood. From its unhealthy air, this district is but thinly inhabited, and the few residents here rarely attain any advanced age. *This place* was part of the vast possessions of Odo bishop of Bayeux, under the general title of whose lands it was entered. Upon his disgrace, the king granted this estate to Fulbert de Dover, for his assistance in the defence of Dover castle. These lands were held of the king *in capite* by barony, the tenant being bound to maintain a certain number of soldiers for the defence of that fortress. Of Fulbert de Dover and his heirs the property was held as one knight's fee of the honour of Chilham, which was constituted the *caput baroniæ*, or chief seat of their barony.

The Manor of Luddenham afterwards devolved to the possession of a family which conferred its name thereto. William de Luddenham, in the reign of King John, held it in the manner before mentioned, and his heirs, in the succeeding reign of Henry III. sold this manor to the Northwood's. One of that line, Sir Roger de Northwood, procured license to alter the tenure of his lands from gavelkind to that of knight's service, from which family the estate passed into that of the Frogenhall's. John so called died possessed of this property under Edward III. with an appendage, called *Bishop's Bush*; and, in the reign of of Edward IV. it descended to Thomas Frogenhall, when his daughter and heir, upon his death, in 1576, carried this manor in marriage to Mr. Thomas Quadring, of London; who, leaving one sole daughter and heir, Joan, she entitled her husband, Richard Dryland, of Cooksditch, in Faversham, to its possession.

The manor of Luddenham then passed, by the marriage of Catherine Dryland, to Reginald Norton, of Lees court, in

Sheldwich, who sold it, in the reign of James I. to Francis Cripps, esq.; when it went successively to the Kirton's; from which name it passed to John Briant, esq., and then to John Blaxland, whose heirs, about the year 1753, alienated the estate to Beversham Filmer, esq. of London, who dying unmarried, and far advanced in years, anno 1763, bequeathed this manor by will to his eldest nephew, Sir John Filmer, of East Sutton; and he dying in 1797, this estate went to his brother, Sir Beversham Filmer, bart. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Ham is a considerable estate adjoining the marshes, at the eastern boundary of this parish, and partly in that of Preston, which is separated from the rest of the district by Davington and Ospringe intervening, being within that appendage to the manor of Copton, thence called *Hamme marsh.* This estate, for several generations, belonged to the family of the Roper's, lords of Teynham, and was sold, in 1766, by Henry Roper, lord Teynham, to Mr. William Chamberlain, of London, who passed it by sale to Benjamin Hatley Foote, esq. whose son afterwards possessed the same.

Nashes is an estate in this parish, which formerly belonged to the Coppinger's. Ambrose Coppinger possessed it in the reign of Elizabeth; from which line it passed to the Brewster's, who owned a considerable portion of land at Linsted, Tenham, and other parts in this neighbourhood. By the latter it was sold to Mr. James Tassel, of Linsted, when it became the property of Mr. David Jones, and afterwards of Mr. Anthony Ingles, gent. of Ashford; who, in 1776, conveyed it to Mr. James Tappenden, of Faversham, who was descended from those of that family at Sittingbourne.

Luddenham is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Ospringe. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a small building, consisting of one aisle and one chancel. It was formerly an appendage to the manor of Luddenham, and as such came into the possession of William de Luddenham, before mentioned, lord of the same; who appears, by the ledger book of the abbey of Faversham, to have given this church to the abbot and convent, which ceremony was performed by placing his knife on the altar in the church of their convent. This was done with the consent of his daughter and heir, Matilda, and Gysle, his wife, which gift

was afterwards confirmed by Sir William de Insula, who married his daughter. Notwithstanding this, William de Insula, their son, laid claim to this property, as part of his inheritance, and a suit was commenced, in the reign of King John, against the abbot and convent, to recover possession, which appears to have been determined in his favor. The religious were in consequence obliged to content themselves with a pension of 66s. 8d., to be paid yearly out of the same. This sum they continued to enjoy till the dissolution, when Henry VIII. settled the estate on his new founded dean and chapter of Canterbury.

The church of *Luddenham* was valued in the king's books at £12 8 4, and the yearly tenths at £1 4 10. In 1578 there were fifty-four communicants; and in 1640, sixty-eight, the yearly value being then £100.

In 1821 there were thirty-two dwellings in the parish of Luddenham; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 96, females 82, making a total of 178 souls.

STONE, called in ancient Latin deeds *Stanes*, and now *Stone*, near Faversham, to distinguish it from two other parishes of the same name in this county, is the next district south-westward from Luddenham. It is very obscure, and scarcely known, though situated close to the north side of the London road, a little beyond the forty-fifth milestone, between Beacon and Judde hills, whence it extends to the waters of the Swale, that constitute its northern boundary. It lies low and flat, the uplands being very good and fertile, but the largest portion of the parish consists of marsh land: at the commencement of which is the manor of Elverton. A considerable part of this parish belongs to the family of the Brydge's, of Wotton.

The manors of Selgrave and Copton, otherwise *Hamme marsh*, claim over different parts of this parish, but the PRINCIPAL MANOR is ELWERTON, written in Domesday *Ernolton*, and in ancient deeds *Eylwartone*, by which name it was given by King Edmund, son of Queen Ediva, to the monks of Christ church, in Canterbury, for the use of their refectory. That donation was confirmed to them in the time of King Stephen; and Archbishop Theobald, in the shrievalty of Ralph Picot,

ordered it to be possessed by them, without any additional burthens being laid on the same.

In the reign of Henry III. anno 1227, Archdeacon Simon Langton, with the consent of his brother, the archbishop, conveyed to the monks of Christ church all the tithes of Eylwarton, great and small, lying within the chapelry of Stone, which then passed under the name of *dominical*, or *demesne tithes*. This manor continued in the same state till the dissolution of the priory, under Henry VIII. when devolving to that king, he settled it on his new founded dean and chapter of Canterbury. It was afterwards demised by that fraternity, from time to time, for three lives, at the old rental of £30. The family of the Clarke's held it in the reigns of Elizabeth and James I.; and the Sidney's, under Charles II.; after which it was held by the Tenison's; Anne, widow of Dr. Edward Tenison, bishop of Ossory, in Ireland, having possessed it at her death, in 1750. By her will she left her interest in the same, after the death of Margaret, wife of Peter St. Eloy, her daughter, to her grandson, Thomas Tenison, esq. afterwards of Sysonby, in Leicestershire; and he, in 1762, assigned it over to Samuel and William Smith, of London, merchants, who, in 1774, again assigned their interest in this property to Mr. John Waller, gent. of Faversham.

There was formerly a chapel here, called *the chapel of our Lady of Eylwarton.*

The bishop of Bayeux, at the survey of Domesday, was possessed of an estate at this place, but upon his disgrace, we have not been able to trace it to any possessor either since or at present.

Stone is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Ospringe. The church was always accounted as a chapel to that of Tenham, as appears by the Black Book of the archbishop of Canterbury, and was given and appropriated to that church as an appendage to the same, in 1227, by Archbishop Stephen Langton, to that archdeaconry, in which it afterwards remained.

In 1821, there were ten dwellings in the parish of Stone; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 41, females 34, making a total of 75 souls.

It is remarkable, that in the dotation charter to the dean and chapter of Canterbury, in the reign of Henry VIII. the

rectory and vicarage of Stone, near Faversham, is granted to that body instead of Stone, in the isle of Oxney, which was totally omitted, though they have enjoyed the latter ever since under that charter.

Buckland is the next parish, westward, from Stone, and is called in Domesday *Bochiland*, being situated about a mile northward of the high London road, at the forty-fourth mile-stone. This place derived its name from the Saxon words *boc*, or book, and *land*, held by writing or charter, being free and hereditary, and passing by livery or seisin. It is usually called Buckland near Faversham, to distinguish it from a parish of the same name in the vicinity of Dover.

The district is circumscribed, and but little known, although adjoining the high road; the country is flat, resembling Stone, but the parish of Tenham intervening on the north side, separates this tract from the marshes, the whole being very unhealthy.

The Manor of Buckland, at the general survey of Domesday, was part of the possessions of Odo bishop of Bayeux, under the general title of whose lands it was entered. Upon the disgrace of that prelate, Buckland appears to have been granted to the family of the Crevequers, of whom it was held by the Peyforer's, who likewise possessed lands on this estate of the abbot of Faversham by knight's service. The property then passed into the possession of a branch of the Apulderfield's, commonly called Aperfield; one of whom, William de Apulderfield, died in the reign of Edward III. possessing this manor. His son of the same name departed this life in the 47th year of that reign, holding it, as above mentioned, for the term of his life, the reversion being vested in Sybill, wife of Richard de Frognale, when John, her son, succeeded to this manor, with the advowson of the church. In his descendants it continued down to Thomas Frogenhall, esq. who died possessed of this property in 1505, having held it *in capite* by knight's service. By him this manor was devised, with its appurtenances, to Joan, his wife, for her life, and was afterwards to be disposed of by his executors in deeds of charity; after which we find the estate possessed by Edward Northwood, under Henry VIII. In the 25th of the above reign, it became the property of Thomas Godding, by whose heirs it was passed away to Henry See, or At See, as he was sometimes called, of Herne, in this county,

who possessed the whole of the manor. It remained in that family for a long period, when ultimately Edward At See, gent. of Herne, in the reign of James I. alienated the manor, with the advowson, to Thomas Mendfield, and Dorothy, his wife, when the former died in 1614; upon the demise of whose widow, it passed to Henry Saker, of Faversham; and, by his eldest son, it was sold to Sir Basil Dixwell, knight and baron. In 1664, this manor, with the advowson of the church, was conveyed to Richard Read, esq. who subsequently alienated the whole to Henry Eve, of Linsted, whose eldest son dying intestate in 1686, it became the property of his three heirs, Henry, James, and Charles Eve, in equal thirds. It then descended in succession to Charles Eve, gent. of Hoxton square, who sold his portion, in 1770, to Thomas Gillow, of St. Nicholas, in the Isle of Thanet. One third of the estate, which was inherited by the younger son of Henry Eve, was, by him, sold in 1747, to trustees, for the use of John Taddy, druggist, of Southwark, whose widow, and only son, Christopher, of Paternoster row, afterwards possessed this estate.

Buckland is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Ospringe. The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, has been many years in ruins. The steeple, which was a spire, still remained in 1719, and the north and south walls are now standing, but that to the east end is quite down, and the whole interior presents a heap of rubbish. It is a rectory, and was valued in the king's books at £44 5, the yearly tenths being 11s. 4d. In 1678 there were only six communicants in this district.

In 1821 there were three dwellings in the parish of Buckland; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 13, females 9, making a total of 22 souls.

Norton lies southward from Buckland, on the north side of the London road, and is written in ancient records *Northtune*, which name it derived from its northerly situation; this district and Newnham belonged to the bishop of Bayeux. It stands contiguous to the high London road, whence the land rises, southward, to the hilly country, for about two miles and a half, to Stuppington; a little beyond which it joins Newnham;

the width is about a mile and a half, when it joins Ospringe, at Syndal bottom, near which the district is mostly woodland; the soil in the lower or northern part of the parish being very good. The church and seat of Norton court adjoining, stand at the western extremity, close to Lewson street, in Tenham; at the same distance eastward of the church is Provenders, a low and indifferent house, near to the woods, and at no great distance above it is Rushitt, once constituting part of the demesnes of Norton manor. This property pays part of the rent of castle-guard to Rochester castle, and was the property of Mr. Richard Mount, who resided there. At no great distance are the estates of Loiterton and Stuppington, where the country, as it becomes poor, increases in salubrity. A small part of this parish also extends to the opposite side of the London road, where it joins Stone and Buckland.

The Manor of Norton, in the reign of the Conqueror, formed part of the possessions of that great monopoliser, Odo, bishop of Bayeux, under the general title of whose lands it was entered in Domesday. Upon the disgrace of that prelate, Hugo de Port, who had held this estate of that ecclesiastic, became the immediate tenant of the king, as his supreme lord. His descendant, William, son of Adam de Port, assumed the name of St. John, of which family, as lords paramount, it was held by Hugh de Newenham, whose daughter Juliana, in the reign of Henry II. carried this manor in marriage to Sir Robert de Campania, or Champion, who resided at Champion's court, in Newenham, as part of her inheritance. His descendant, John de Campania, held it at the latter end of the reign of Edward I. and had a charter of *free warren* granted him for this manor, as did also the Lady Champion, or de Campania, under that of Edward III. at which period a rent of thirty shillings was paid from this estate to Rochester castle. When that family became extinct, the property passed to the Frogenhall's, one of whom, John, died possessed of the same, as appears by the escheat rolls in the reign of Henry IV. It was then carried in marriage to the Boteler's; Anne, daughter and sole heir of John Boteler, of Graveney, having conveyed the estate in dower to John Martin, one of the judges of the Common Pleas, who died possessed of the property in 1436, and was interred in the church here. One of his descendants sold this manor, in the reign of Henry VII., to a

Fynche, descended from those of Seward's, in Linsted, whose heir, Nicholas, left a son, George, who resided at Norton court, and died in 1584, leaving one daughter and heir, Mary, who carried this manor in marriage to Sir Michael Sondes, of Throwley. He sold it, in the reign of Elizabeth, to Mr. Thomas Mills, who afterwards resided here, and in that family it remained until the reign of Charles II. when it was sold to Mr. Baptist Pigott, gent. afterwards of Norton court, who died in 1677. He left a daughter his sole surviving heir, who married Benjamin Godfrey, merchant, of London, being the twelfth and last son of Thomas Godfrey, of Hodiford, in Sellinge, who became entitled to this manor in right of his wife. He bore *Sable, a chevron between three pelicans' heads erased, or.* He died in 1704, leaving two sons and a daughter, when the fee became vested in John Godfrey, esq. the eldest surviving male heir, who resided here, and was a gentleman of great literary abilities, being also extremely well versed in antiquarian researches, especially such as related to this county. He died in 1737, devising this manor to his nephew, Thomas Godfrey Lushington, who departed this life in 1757, leaving by Dorothy, his first wife, three sons and one daughter, Catherine, then the wife of John Cockin Sole, esq. of Bobbing, on whom he had settled this manor in 1754, at the period of her marriage, previous to his dissolution.

John Cockin Sole, esq. becoming thus possessed of Norton court, removed thither about the year 1765, and dying in 1790, left an only surviving daughter, Joan; when, after his death, this manor and seat were sold under the direction of his will to John Bennett, esq. of Faversham.

Provenders is an ancient seat in this parish, situated about half a mile eastward of the church, having been once the residence of a family of that name, one of whom, John, was possessed of it in the reign of Henry III. as appears from an old deed of the time. That family having become extinct about the reign of Edward III. we find the property in the possession of Lucas de Vienna, or Vienne, whose descendant, Edward de Vienna, paid aid for it, together with lands in this parish, called Viend Garden; from which name it passed into that of the Quadring's, a family which possessed it under Richard II. About the latter end of the reign of Henry IV. it passed to the ancient family of the Goldwell's, of Great Chart; and thence to

the Dryland's, of Cooksditch, one of which name alienated the estate, under Henry VIII. to Robert Arwater, esq., who sold it to Sir James Hales, son of John Hales, of the Dongeon. He died A.D. 1555, under Philip and Mary, when his descendants passed it by sale to Thomas Sare, who afterwards resided there. He was the eldest son of Laurence Sare, gent. of Lenham, and married Joan, daughter of John Adye, of Greet, in Doddington, by whom he had one son, Adye, and three daughters. Adye Sare resided here, to whom William Camden Clarinceux, in the 10th year of James I. confirmed the arms of his ancestors, bearing *Gules, two bars ermine in chief, three martlets, or.* He had two sons, Thomas and Archdale, and three daughters, who sold this estate to Mr. James Hugesson, merchant, of Dover, who died possessed of the same in 1637. His son also resided and kept his shrievalty here in the reign of Charles I., and died at Provenders in 1646, when he was buried in the chapel, in Linsted church. This seat afterwards continued in this family down to William Hugesson, who lived at Provenders, and dying in 1719, his son, William, succeeded, who also died in 1753. It still remained vested in that line, till the last heirs, two daughters, jointly possessing it, carried the estate in dower to their respective husbands; one of whom married Sir Joseph Banks, who was afterwards president of the Royal Society; and the other, Sir Edward Knatchbull, of Mersham.

STUPPINGTON, anciently written *Stependone*, is an estate on the southern extremity of this parish, about half a mile eastward of Lodge house, and was formerly a manor, recorded in the survey of Domesday as part of the possessions of Odo bishop of Bayeux, under the general title of whose lands it was entered in Domesday record. Upon his disgrace, Hugo de Port, who had been the bishop's tenant, held it afterwards *in capite* of the king, who assumed the name of St. John; and of him it was held successively by the Cheney's and Apulderfield's, in which latter line it continued to the reign of Edward IV. when Elizabeth, only daughter of Sir William de Apulderfield, of Badmangore, in Linsted, carried this estate in marriage to John Roper, esq. of Eltham, who gave it to his second son, Christopher, of Badmangore, afterwards Lord Teynham; in whose descendants this estate of Stuppington continued down to the Right Hon. Henry lord Teynham.

Norton is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Ospringe. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, consists of one aisle and a chancel; in the latter is a monument commemorative of Benjamin Godfrey, esq. of Norton court; there are also memorials of the Piggot's, of the same place; and of the Sare's, of Provenders.

This rectory was valued in the king's books at £10 18 4, the yearly tenths being £1 1 10. In 1640 the estimate was £100, and communicants thirty.

In 1821 there were fifteen dwellings in the parish of Norton; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 52, females 46, making a total of 98 souls.

Newnham is the next parish, south-eastward; the name signifying *New town;* the high road through Syndal, or Newnham valley, over Hollingbourne hill to Maidstone, leading through this parish. On the road, in the valley, is the village of Newnham, near the western boundary, adjoining Doddington, having the church within the limits of the same; and on the opposite side, the parsonage, which is known by the name of *the Calico house,* from the remarkable red and white colouring of plaster wherewith the front is decorated. *Sholand* stands at a small distance nearer to Doddington. The parish contains near 1800 acres, of which about one third are woodland and pasture. It extends up the hills on either side of the valley, where it is covered with wood to the brow of those eminences. To the north, above the village, is Champion, usually called Champyn court, being a cold, but healthy country, the land poor and chalky, with a considerable quantity of flint. A fair is held in the village, on St. Peter's day, June 29th, for linen and pedlary.

The Manor of Newnham, or Champion Court, was anciently part of the possessions of a family which thence assumed its surname. Hugh de Newnham was lord of this manor in the reign of Henry I. and held it of the St. John's, who were the king's tenants in chief for this estate. Fulke de Newenham succeeded his father, Hugh, in the possession of this manor, and, in the 19th year of King Stephen, A. D. 1153, founded the

nunnery of Davington, whereto he gave lands in this parish, as well as the church of Newnham, which before that period appertained to the manor. His daughter, Juliana, carried this estate in marriage to Sir Robert de Campania, or Champion, who resided at the manor house, thence called *Champion's Court*, which name it afterwards retained. His son, Sir Robert de Campania, was one of those Kentish gentlemen who followed Richard I. to the siege of St. John d'Acre, in Palestine, where he was knighted, and his descendant was one of the knights who were present with Edward I. at the siege of Carlaverock, in Scotland. In the 31st of the above reign, he had a grant of a market weekly, and a fair yearly, at his manor of Newnham, as well as *free warren* in Norton and Newnham. What arms this family bore, we have not ascertained, but to an ancient deed of the above reign, for the marriage of Julia, sister of Sir John de Chaumpaine, with Roger de Toketon, there is a seal appendant, with a coat of arms, viz. *Vairy*, and circumscribed S. Johis de Chaumpaine.

In the 1st of Edward III. Margery, widow of John de Champaigne, obtained the king's writ to the sheriff, restoring to her all such estates as had been forfeited in his father's reign, on account of the prosecutions of Hugh le Despencer the elder and younger.

This family ended at length in two daughters and coheirs, Joan married to Samuel Slapp, and Elizabeth to Ralph Hart, and they, in right of their wives, possessed it in undivided moieties; but, on the death of Joan, sole daughter and heir of Samuel Slapp, and his wife, above mentioned, the whole fee passed to the possession of Richard Hart, son of Ralph Hart. His successor, about the beginning of the reign of James I. alienated the property to Sir Henry Spiller, and he, under Charles I. conveyed it to Rodulph Weckerlin, esq. who resided at Champion's court, after having been a great traveller in different parts of the globe. He was descended from a good family of the duchy of Wirtemburg, in Upper Germany, and espoused Anne, daughter of Sir William Hugesson, of Provenders. He died possessed of this property in 1667, and was buried in the north chancel of Linsted church, when from his heirs it passed by sale to Jacob Sawbridge, of London, who dying in 1748, it descended to his great grandson, Samuel Elias Sawbridge, esq. of Ollantigh.

A court-leet and court-baron is held for this manor, which extends over part of the parish of Newnham.

SHOLAND, commonly called *Shulland,* is an estate in the southern part of this parish, situated about one field on the east side of the high road of Newnham valley, just before the entrance to the village of Doddington.

In the reign of Edward I. Jeffry de Shonyngton possessed this estate, which he held by knight's service, of Robert de Campania, and he again of Robert de St. John, the king's immediate tenant.

His descendant, Richard de Shonyngton, paid aid for this property under Edward III. when the estate passed into the family of the Bourne's, seated at the adjoining estate of Sharsted. Thence it went by sale to the Chevin's, descended from the Chyveyne's, or Chevin's, of Chevene court, in Marden. One of the family of Sholand, Thomas Chevin, married Thomasine, daughter and coheir of John Champaine, of Champion's court, as before mentioned, when, from the name of Chevin it passed by sale to the Maycott's. Richard Maycott died possessed of the property under Henry VIII. after which it went to the family of the Adyes, of Doddington, where it remained till Joan of that name carried it in marriage to Thomas Sare, of Provenders, in Norton. His son, Adye Sare, sold it, in the reign of Elizabeth, to Mr. James Hugesson, of Dover, from which name it passed to that of Skeere, when Mr. John Skeere dying without issue male, it descended by his will, in 1746, partly to Mr. Edward Dering, of Doddington, who had married one of his daughters, and to his other daughter and coheir Barbara, then unmarried. The latter purchasing the other moiety of Mr. Dering, she became possessed of the whole, and, in 1752, marrying Thomas Godfrey Lushington, esq. he was entitled to the possession of the same, and, dying in 1757, she again became entitled to this property in her own right, and afterwards sold it to Mr. William Loftie, gent. of Canterbury. He died in possession of this manor in 1778, and by will bequeathed it to his second son, Mr. William Loftie, who afterwards exchanged it for other lands in Romney marsh, with his brother, Mr. Robert Loftie, of Ireland, who afterwards owned the same.

THERE IS A MANOR called SHOLLAND, or SHORLAND, extending over a portion of this parish, and part of Doddington,

which has for a length of time belonged to the same owners as that of Sharsted, but is not connected with the estate of Sholand before mentioned, the former being held by Alured Pinke, esq. of Sharsted.

The Homestall is an estate situated on the hill, near the northern boundary of this parish, though partly in that of Doddington, and was formerly the habitation of persons of respectability. Robert Adye, gent. was descended from the line of Greet, in Doddington, which resided here in the reign of Charles I., one of whom married Elizabeth, one of the daughters of James Bourne, esq. of Sharsted. The property then devolved to the Nicholson's, who resided here, when the whole passed to Mr. Allen, of Canterbury, whose widow afterwards possessed this estate.

Newnham is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Ospringe. The church, dedicated to Saints Peter and Paul, consists of three aisles and a chancel, in the latter of which are several memorials to the Hulke's, or Hulse's, and in the body are also several tombs to the family of Skeere. In one of the windows we observe the arms, *per chevron sable, and ermine in chief, two boars' heads couped, or;* and another with the same coat empaling *argent on a bend azure, three boars' heads couped, or.*

Fulk de Newenham, lord of the manor, on founding the Benedictine nunnery of Davington, in the year 1153, gave the church of Newenham as part of its endowment. It continued a portion of the possessions of that institution, on the escheat of the same to the crown, under Henry VIII. at which period the parsonage, with the glebe lands, was demised by indenture to Henry Bourne, esq. at the yearly rental of £20.

The above monarch, in the 35th year of his reign, granted this estate, with the rest of the possessions of the priory of Davington, to Sir Thomas Cheney, knight of the garter; on whose demise, his only son and heir, Henry lord Cheney, became possessed of the same.

In 1640 this vicarage was valued at £20 per annum, the communicants being eighty-six. It was afterwards augmented by the sum of £600, £200 of which were derived from Queen Anne's bounty, and, in 1766, £200 more were added from the same fund. On a distribution of the like sum from the legacy of Mrs. Ursula Taylor, paid by Sir Philip Boteler, who was the executor to her

will, in 1722, it was subsequently, exclusive of this bounty, valued at about £45 per annum.

In 1821, there were sixty-seven dwellings in the parish of Newnham; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 192, females 164, making a total of 356 souls.

EASLING is the next parish south-eastward from Newnham; in old deeds, written *Esling* and *Iseling*. The district is situated among hills, on very elevated ground, about five miles southward of Faversham, and a little more than a mile south-eastward from Newnham valley; in a healthy, but cold country, being much exposed to a north-eastern aspect. The village, with the church and parsonage, stand on the road leading from Otterden to Newnham valley, wherein is a large house called Gregories, formerly of some note, and rebuilt in 1616. It belonged to the Hoskins's, and then to the Parmenter's, in which name it continued. A fair is held in this village on September 14th, for toys and pedlary. On the 30th of November, annually, there is a diversion called *Squirrel hunting*, in this and the neighbouring parishes; whence much mischief generally ensues, the sport uniformly concluding in a drunken riot.

This place, at the survey of Domesday, constituted part of the extensive possessions of Odo, bishop of Bayeux, under the general title of whose lands it was entered in Domesday record. In that survey it was called *Nordeslinge*, and held of the above-named ecclesiastic, by Fulbert de Dover, as also *Huntingfield* and *Diven* manors in this parish, being bound by tenure to maintain a certain number of soldiers for the defence of Dover castle, to which there was a tower called *Turris Dei inimica*, which he was also bound to keep in repair.

Of him and his heirs, these manors were held, by knight's service, of the honour of Chilham, which they had made the *caput baroniæ*, or *chief of their barony*, that part of the above-mentioned estates, called in Domesday *Nordeslinge*, being afterwards known by the name of *The Manor of Easling, or North Court*, having acquired the same from a family so called. Ralph de Esling died possessed of this estate in the reign of Edward I. anno 1297, who left an only daughter and heir, who carried the

same in marriage, with that of Denton, to Sir Fulk de Peyforer, and he, with Sir William de Peyforer, of Otterden, accompanied Edward I. to the battle of Carlaverock, where, with many other Kentish gentlemen, they were both knighted. For their arms they bore *argent, six fleurs de lis azure.*

Sir Fulk de Peyforer, in the above reign, obtained the grant of a market weekly, and an annual fair, and *free warren* for his lands at Esling; but previous to the end of the same reign, the property of these manors was transferred to the family of the Leyborne's, as it appears, by an inquisition taken in the reign of Edward III., that Juliana, widow of William de Leyborne, was possessed of the above estate at her death, and that their granddaughter, Juliana, was heir both to her grandfather and father's possessions.

She was then the wife of John de Hastings, and afterwards of Sir William de Clinton, earl of Huntingdon, who paid aid for the manor of North court, or Easling. She survived him, and died possessed of these manors under Edward III. leaving no issue by either husband, when these estates, with all her other property, were escheated to the crown, no heir on her side, either direct or collateral, being found entitled to the same.

These manors remained vested in the crown till the commencement of the reign of Richard II. when they became the property of John duke of Lancaster, and other feoffees, in trust, for the performance of certain religious bequests in the will of Edward III. In consequence of this, the king granted them, among other premises, to the dean and canons of St. Stephen's college, in Westminster, for ever; and in that situation they continued till the 1st year of Edward VI. at which period, by an Act passed, they were surrendered into the king's hands. That prince, in his 3d year, granted these manors by letters patent to Sir Thomas Cheyney, privy counsellor, and treasurer of his household, with all and singular their liberties and privileges whatsoever, in as ample a manner as the dean and canons possessed them, to hold *in capite* by knight's service. His son, Henry lord Cheyney, of Tuddington, had possession granted him of this inheritance in the reign of Elizabeth, and in the same year levied a fine of all his lands.

He passed these manors away by sale in that reign to Martin James, esq. prothonotary of the court of Chancery, and after-

wards a justice of the peace for this county who levied a fine in the reign of Elizabeth, and died possessed of this estate in 1592. He was interred in the south chancel of the church, under a monument, whereon appear the effigies of himself and his wife. He bore for his arms, *Quarterly*, first and fourth *vert a dolphin, naiant*, second and third, *ermine on a chief gules, three crosses, or*. His great grandson, Walter James, esq. was possessed of these manors at the restoration of Charles II. whose heirs sold them, at the latter end of that reign, to Mr. John Grove, of Tunstall, from whom they descended, in 1678, to Richard Grove, esq. of Cambridge. He dying unmarried in 1792, by will devised this property to Mr. William Jemmett, of Ashford, and Mr. William Marshall, of London, who remained joint possessors of the same.

The Manor of Huntingfield, situated in the eastern part of this parish, was, at the general survey of Domesday, part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Bayeux, on whose disgrace it went, with the residue of his estates, to the crown, about the year 1084, when Fulbert de Dover appears to have held it, with others in this parish, of the king *in capite*, by barony, by the tenure of ward to Dover castle. Of him and his heirs the property was then held by knight's service of the honour of Chilham, being the head or chief of their barony.

Simon de Chelsfield possessed this property of them as lords paramount, under Henry III. but, at the latter end of that reign, this manor passed into the possession of the eminent family of Huntingfield, when it assumed the name of Huntingfield court. It appears by the roll of knight's fees, taken at the commencement of the reign of Edward I. that Peter de Huntingfield then possessed the manor, and kept his shrievalty at Huntingfield court; he likewise obtained a charter of *free warren* for his lands at Eslynge and Stalisfield, having also attended the king at the siege of Carlaverock, in Scotland, when, for the services there performed, he was knighted. He died in the 7th year of Edward II. anno 1313, leaving by the lady Imayne, his wife, Sir Walter de Huntingfield, his son and heir, who having obtained several liberties for his manor of Wickham, seems to have deserted this place, as in the reign of Edward III. it was sold either by himself, or his son Sir John de Huntingfield, to one of the family of Sawsamere *Dña de Sawsamero*, as she is written in

the Book of Aid, having given respective aid for the same under that title.

Previous to the end of the above reign the estate had passed to the name of Halden; as it appears, by the escheat rolls, that William de Halden died possessed of Easling manor, called Huntingfield, held of the castle of Chilham. Soon after that period it became the property of Sir William de Burleigh, who, being attainted under Richard II. this manor, with his other estates, devolved to the crown; when, in the reign of Henry IV., John, son and heir of Sir Simon de Burleigh, was, upon petition, restored in blood, and the judgment against his father revoked; three years after which, the king, with the consent of the lords, wholly restored him to all his inheritance. How long this manor continued in the above name we have not ascertained, but, in the reign of Henry VI. it had passed to the possession of Sir James Fienes, afterwards Lord Say and Sele, who, becoming unpopular, from the great favor in which he was held by the king, was seized during the insurrection raised by Jack Cade, and beheaded in the 29th year of the above reign. He died possessed of this manor, and devised it by will to his son, SirWilliam Fienes, who became Lord Say and Sele; but, the contention between the houses of York and Lancaster, in which he risked not only his person, but entire fortune, compelled him, from distress, to mortgage and sell the greater part of his property. How this manor was disposed of we have not found, but within a very few years after it appears to have been vested in the crown, as Richard III. granted to John Water, otherwise *Yorke Herald*, an annuity out of the revenues of his lordship of Huntingfield, and afterwards by his writ, in the same year, on the resignation of John Garter, principal king at arms, and Thomas Clarencieux, king at arms, he committed to Richard Champeney, otherwise *Gloucestre*, king at arms, the custody of this manor.

Notwithstanding this, the fee seems to have remained in the crown, till granted by Henry VIII. to John Guildford and Alured Randall, esqrs. to hold *in capite*, by knight's service. John Guildford soon after became sole proprietor, and alienated this estate to Sir Thomas Moyle, who sold it in the reign of Edward VI. to John Wild, esq. of St. Martin's hill, Canterbury, with its appurtenances in Esling, Sheldwick, Whitstaple, Reculver, and Ulcombe. It appears, however, that he was not

possessed of the entire fee at his decease, in 1554, since he by will devised his *two thirds of this manor*, upon the death of his wife, to his son, Thomas Wild, then an infant, whose son, John Wild, esq. of St. Martin's hill, alienated his share, or two thirds of the same, to Martin James, esq. of North court, or Esling. His great grandson, Walter James, esq. possessed it at the restoration of Charles II. at the latter end of which reign his heirs sold it to Mr. John Grove, gent. of Tunstall, who died possessed of the property in 1678. His great grandson, Richard Grove, esq. of London, and also of North court, dying in 1792, devised these manors to William Jemmet, gent. and William Marshall, of London, who continued joint possessors of the same.

But the REMAINING THIRD PART of the *manor of Huntingfield*, being in the hands of the crown, under Philip and Mary, wherein was included the *mansion of Huntingfield Court*, continued vested in the same till in the reign of Elizabeth, when the whole were granted to Mr. Robert Greenstreet, who died possessed of the same in that reign, holding them *in capite* by knight's service. His descendant, Mr. Matthew Greenstreet, of Preston, leaving an only daughter Anne, she carried this estate in marriage to Mr. Richard Tassell, of Linsted, and he, in 1733, alienated this property to Edward Hasted, esq. barrister at law, of Hawley, near Dartford, whose father, Mr. Joseph Hasted, gent. of Chatham, was before possessed of a small part of the adjoining demesne lands of Huntingfield manor, which had, in the reign of Elizabeth, been possessed by Mr. Josias Clynch.

THE FAMILY OF HASTED, or as it was anciently written both *Halsted* and *Hausted*, was of eminent note in very early times, as well from the offices several of the name bore, as the various possessions they held in different counties, their arms being *Gules a chief chequy, or* and *azure*.

William Hausted was keeper of the king's exchange, in London, in the reign of Edward II. and from him those of Kent are descended; one of whom, John Hausted, clerk, born in Hampshire, was chaplain to Queen Elizabeth, and in great favor with that princess, whom he, however, greatly displeased by entering into marriage with a daughter of George Clifford, esq. of Bobbing, sister of Sir Conyers Clifford, governor of Connaught, in Ireland. Upon that event taking place, he retired to the Isle

of Wight, where he was beneficed, and dying about the year 1596, was buried in the church of Newport. His great grandson, Joseph Hasted, gent. was of Chatham, on whose decease, in 1732, he was buried at Newington church, as was his only son Edward, of Hawley, purchaser of Huntingfield court. He died in 1740, leaving by his wife, Anne, descended from the ancient family of the Dingley's, of Wolverton, in the Isle of Wight, one son, Edward Hasted, esq. late of Canterbury, who had several children, the eldest of whom, the Rev. Edward Hasted, was afterwards vicar of Hollingborne. He bore for his arms the ancient coat of the family of Hasted, with the addition in the field of an *eagle displayed ermine, beaked and legged, or,* with which he quartered those of Dingley.

Edward Hasted, esq. of Canterbury, succeeded his father in this estate, which, in 1787, he alienated to John Montresor, esq. of Throwley, who continued to possess this property.

The foundations of flint and stone continually dug up near this mansion, plainly evince that it must have been much larger than at present. There was once a chapel and a mill belonging to the same; the fields where they stood being still known by the names of the chapel and mill fields, which answer the description given in Domesday.

Diven is *a manor* situated at no great distance from the church of Easling, the above being a corruption of its original name, which was Dive court. This is described in Domesday as having once belonged to the bishop of Bayeux, on whose disgrace it became forfeited to the crown, when Fulbert de Dover appears to have held it of the king *in capite* by barony, by the tenure of ward to Dover castle; and of him and his heirs it was held as half a knight's fee of the honour of Chilham, the *caput baroniæ*, or head of their barony.

In the reign of Henry III., John Dive held this estate, as before mentioned, of that honour; and his descendant, Andrew, paid aid for it, as half a knight's fee, held of the above barony. In this name the manor of Diven continued till the beginning of the reign of Richard II., when it was alienated to the Sharp's, of Nin place, in Great Chart, where it remained till the reign of Henry VII., when it was conveyed to the Thurston's, of Challock. It passed thence by sale to John Wild, esq. who, before the reign of Elizabeth, sold it to the Gates's, who alienated the

property to the Norden's; from which name it passed to the Bunce's, where it remained till the death of Charles I. in 1648. Soon after that event, this manor was sold to John Adye, esq. of Down court, in Doddington, who died possessed of the same in 1660, when his two sons appear afterwards to have held it in undivided moieties.

Edward Adye, esq. was of Barham, and left seven daughters coheirs, one of whom, Susannah, married Ruishe Wentworth, esq. son and heir of Sir George, a younger brother to Thomas, the unfortunate earl of Strafford, and entitled her husband to the possession of her father's moiety of this manor. He left an only daughter and heir, Mary, who married Thomas lord Howard, of Effingham, which nobleman died possessed of this moiety of Diven court in 1725, and leaving no issue male, was succeeded in this estate by Francis, his brother and heir, who was, in 1731, created earl of Effingham. He died in 1743, when his son, Thomas earl of Effingham, afterwards alienated this moiety of Diven's court to Oliver Edwards, esq. of the Six Clerk's office.

The other moiety of this manor, which, on the death of his father, came into the possession of Nicholas Adye, esq. of Down court, in Doddington, was demised by him to his eldest son, John Adye, esq. of Down court, who, under Charles II. suffered a recovery of the property. He left an only daughter and heir, Mary, married to Henry Cullum, serjeant at law; but previous to that event, this estate appears to have been passed away by him to Thomas Digges, esq. of Chilham castle; whose descendant, of the same name, in 1723, conveyed it, with Chilham castle, and the rest of his estates, to Mr. James Colebrook, citizen and mercer, of London. He died possessed of this moiety of Diven court, in 1752; when, in the year 1775, it was sold to Thomas Heron, esq. of Newark upon Trent, afterwards of Chilham castle, who, about the year 1776, joined with Oliver Edwards, esq. the proprietor of the *other moiety*, in the sale of the same to Mr. Charles Chapman, of Faversham, who then became possessed of the whole. At the decease of the latter, in 1782, he devised the property by will to his nephews and nieces, of the name of Leeze, two of whom afterwards inherited this estate.

The Manor of Arnolds, situated about a mile eastward

from the church of Easling, was also part of the estates of the bishop of Bayeux, on whose disgrace it went to the crown, and was afterwards held *in capite* by barony by Fulbert de Dover. Of him and his heirs it was again held by Arnold de Bononiâ, whence it acquired the name of *Arnolds*, otherwise Esling. His son, John Fitzarnold, afterwards possessed this property in the reign of Edward III. after which, Peter de Huntingfield became owner of the manor, but, in the reign of Edward III. the Lady Champaine, or Champion, and the Earl of Oxford, paid aid for it as half a knight's fee, held of the barony above mentioned. How it afterwards passed we cannot ascertain, but, in the reign of Richard II. it had become part of the endowment of the dean and canons of the collegiate free chapel of St. Stephen's, Westminster, with whom it remained till the suppression of the same, in the 1st year of Edward VI. It then passed to the crown, and became the property of the Gates's; and then of the Terry's; in which line it remained for several years, and acquired the name of *Arnolds*, otherwise *Terry*. From that name it was, in the reign of Queen Anne, sold in part to the Rev. William Wickens, rector of this parish, whose son, William, succeeded to the same on his father's death, in 1718. He died without issue male, and devised this property to his two daughters, one of whom marrying Mr. Elvey, he purchased the other sister's share; and his widow surviving him, possessed this estate in part; another portion was sold to one Chapman; and a third to an Avery. Since that period, it has become very inconsiderable, in consequence of the last-mentioned parts having been again parcelled out, so that it is now sunk into obscurity. *The manorial* rights of this district were claimed by John Wynne, and Lydia, his wife.

Easling is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Ospringe. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, consists of three aisles, and a south chancel, called St. Katherine's.

Alicia de Esling, wife of Robert de Eschequer, and lady of the manor of Esling, with the consent of Archbishop Theobald, in the reign of King Stephen, granted the church of Eslings, situated on her estate, to the priory of Leeds, in perpetual alms, to be possessed by the fraternity for ever, after the death of Gervas, then incumbent on the same. That gift was confirmed

by Archbishop Hubert in the reign of Richard I. but Archbishop Langton, his successor, ordered that 20s. yearly should only be paid to the canons of Leeds, beyond which sum they should have no further claims. This was also alienated from them, under Henry VIII. who settled it on his new erected dean and chapter. The rectory was valued in the king's books at £16, the yearly tenths being £1 12. In 1587 the communicants were eighty-seven; and in 1640 it was valued at £120, when the communicants amounted to 100. It was subsequently valued at £200 per annum.

In 1821, there were fifty-eight dwellings in the parish of Easling; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 207, females 199, making a total of 406 souls.

STALISFIELD, commonly called *Starchfield*, adjoins the parish of Easling, to the south-east, being denominated in Domesday *Stanefelle*, which signifies Stonefield; a name well adapted to its flinty soil.

This parish is obscure and unfrequented, being situated in a wild and dreary country, near the summit of the chalk hills, just above Charing, its southern boundary. It lies on elevated ground, being extremely bleak, and exposed to the north-east winds. The village stands round Starchfield green, near the summit of the hill, on the road to Charing, the church being in the opposite part, and the parsonage midway between each. Near the north-east boundary of the parish, next to Throwley, is an estate called Holborn, but its proper name is Holbean, the same belonging to St. Bartholomew's hospital, in London.

THIS PLACE, at the survey of Domesday, in 1080, was part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Bayeux, under the general title of whose lands it was therein entered. On that ecclesiastic's disgrace, after passing to the crown, Adam de Port became the king's immediate tenant for the same, of whose heirs it was again held by Arnulf Kade, who gave this manor, with that of Ore and its appurtenances, to the Knight's Hospitallers, by whom it was assigned to the jurisdiction of their preceptory, at Swingfield.

This manor continued part of their possessions till the general

dissolution of their hospital, under Henry VIII.; after which this manor did not long remain in the crown, as the king granted it to Sir Anthony St. Leger and his heirs male, to hold *in capite* by knight's service. He, by an Act passed in the reign of Edward VI. procured the lands in this county to be disgavelled, when that prince made a grant of this manor to him and his heirs, to hold by the like service. He immediately after passed it by sale to Sir Anthony Aucher, of Bishopsborne, whose son, Sir Anthony, about the beginning of the reign of James I. sold it to one Salter, whose descendant, Sir Nicholas, possessed it at the restoration of Charles II. His son, Nicholas Salter, esq. of Stoke Poges, in Bucks, died in the reign of King William, leaving one son, John, who was of London, and three daughters, to portion off which latter, he by will ordered this manor to be sold, when it was, in 1699, bought by Mr. Richard Webbe, of Eleham. He, in 1711, after having had some lawsuits to secure its possession, alienated all his right and title to the trustees of the will of Dame Sarah Barnett, widow of Sir Paul Barnett, serjeant at law, who died in the beginning of that year. She was the only daughter and heir of Sir George Ent, M.D. of London, president of the College of Physicians, and widow of Francis Head, bart. who died in his father's lifetime. She had by her first husband one son, Sir Francis Head, bart. and a daughter, Sarah, married to John Lynch, esq. of Groves, father of John Lynch, D.D. dean of Canterbury, who left issue Sir William Lynch, K.B., and John Lynch, LL.D. archdeacon and prebendary of Canterbury. Lady Barnett, by the trusts of her will, devised this manor to her male issue by her first husband in tail male, with remainder to the issue of her daughter, Sarah, by the same husband, in like tail; with remainder to her several daughters and their heirs in fee. By virtue of that limitation, her grandson, Sir Francis Head, bart. at length succeeded to this property, and on his demise, in 1768, without issue male, his next brother, Sir John Head, bart. and archdeacon of Canterbury, became possessed of this estate. He dying in 1769, left his widow, Lady Jane Head, sister of Doctor William Geekie, prebendary of Canterbury, surviving, on whom he had settled this manor in jointure. She died in 1780, on which the property, under the above will, became vested in Lady Barnett's next heir male, namely, Sir William Lynch, K.B. of Grove. He

was her great grandson, being the eldest son of John Lynch, D.D. dean of Canterbury, son of John Lynch, esq. by Sarah, his wife, and her daughter, by Francis Head, esq. who, to bar all further remainders with his brother, Dr. John Lynch, suffered recovery of this manor, and died 1785. The estate was then alienated to the Rev. Wanley Sawbridge, who dying unmarried and intestate, in 1796, the estate went to his two nephews and heirs-at-law, Samuel Elias and Wanley Sawbridge, esqs. who afterwards possessed the same. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Darbies Court is a manor, situated in the north-west part of this parish, and derived its name from a family residing there, the members of which claimed the rank of gentlemen in very early times, as, in the ancient registers and rolls of Kentish gentry, we find their coat-armour thus designated, *Party per chevron embattled or* and *azure, three eagles counterchanged.* In the reign of Edward III., Sara de Darbye paid aid for lands here, which William de Darbie and the heirs of Thomas Franklyn held before in Winfield, of Reginald de Cornhill, by knight's service. There is also a valley and hamlet adjoining Darbies court, called Wingfield and Wingfield valley, of which family was John Darbie, alderman of London, and sheriff in 1445. He built the south aisle of St. Dionis Backchurch, in that city, in memory of which the above-mentioned armorial bearings were put up in the windows.

The Manor of Darbies Court was alienated by one of that family, in the beginning of the reign of Henry IV., to Sir Ralph St. Leger, of Otterden, who died in that reign, leaving a daughter, Joan, then wife of Henry Aucher, esq. of Newenden. She entitled her husband to its possession, and in their descendants the property continued till the reign of Elizabeth, when it was alienated to Sir Michael Sondes, of Eastry, who was second son of Sir Anthony Sondes, of Throwley. On the demise of his elder brother, Sir Thomas Sondes, in 1592, without male issue, Sir Michael succeeded him in his seat at Throwley, as well as the rest of his entailed estates in this county. He afterwards resided at Throwley, where he died in 1617, under James I.; since which this manor has descended in the same way as Throwley and Lees court, in Sheldwich, down to the Right Hon. Lewis Thomas lord Sondes, who possessed the same. A court-baron is held for this manor.

This parish is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Ospringe. The church, which stands near the centre of the parish, is dedicated to St. Mary, and built in the form of a cross, the steeple standing in the centre of the south side. In the north wall of the north chancel, is an ancient tomb, with the effigy of a knight in armour, lying at full length.

The church of Ore was anciently accounted as a chapel to that of Stalisfield, but it has been long since separated, and become a distinct church, and completely independent of the same.

The vicarage of this church appears to have been endowed before the 8th of Richard II. by the taxation then levied. It was valued in the king's books at £5 6 8, the yearly tenths being 10s. 8d.; and was afterwards of the yearly certified value of £33 18 3. In 1587 there were sixty-one communicants; and in 1640 it was valued at £35, the communicants being then the same.

In 1821 there were forty-eight dwellings in the parish of Stalisfield; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 183, females 157, making a total of 340 souls.

Throwley is the next parish, north-eastward, from Stalisfield, and is called in the record of Domesday *Trevelei*, in later times *Truley* and *Thruley;* in Latin records *Trulega* and *Truilla;* and is now written both *Throwley* and *Throwleigh*. This district is situated on high ground, in a pleasant open country, and though wild and romantic, being among the hills and woods, it is not so dreary and forlorn as the last-mentioned parish. There are some level lands in the grounds of what once constituted a park, at Throwley, and on the east side of the same are the foundations of the ancient seat of the Sondes's, with the church adjoining. There is no village, excepting the few houses in Abraham street. On one of the small Greens or Forestals, stands a house, which belonged to the estate of Mr. Philerenis Willis's heirs; and another larger and more ancient mansion; which, with the estate belonging to the same, was formerly the property of the Chapman's, and sold by them to

Christopher Vane lord Barnard. His grandson, William viscount Vane, dying in 1789, gave it, with his other estates in this county, to David Papillon, esq. of Acrise, who possessed that property.

There was a family resided here, named Wolgate, from which this Green seems to have taken its name of Wolgate, or Wilgate green. After remaining in that name for some generations, the line terminated in a daughter, as Mr. Ralph Wolgate dying in 1642, his heir, Anne, married Mr. William Genery, and entitled him to her father's possessions here, as well as at Posiers, in Borden, and other parts of this county. The Woodwards appear afterwards to have possessed their estate here, several of whom lie buried under a tomb in Throwley church-yard.

About half a mile distant south-westward from Wilgate green in Abraham street, is a seat, called from its elevated situation, and extensive prospect, Belmont. It was built in 1769 by Edward Wilks, esq. storekeeper of the royal powder-mills at Faversham, who enclosed a paddock or shrubbery round it, and occasionally resided here, till 1779, when he alienated the same to John Montresor, esq. who resided there.

The beech tree flourishes here in the greatest luxuriance singly to a very large size, as well as in stubs in the coppice wood, which consists mostly of those trees. The large tracts of ground, in this and other counties, overspread with beech, are strong proofs of its being the *indigenous growth* of this island, notwithstanding Cæsar peremptorily asserts, in his Commentaries, that there were none in his time. The Britons, he says, had every material for use and building, the same as the Gauls, with the exception of the fir and beech: whereas, of the former, there is positive proof of his having been mistaken, which will in some measure destroy that credit we might otherwise give to his authority as regards the latter. Indeed, the continued opposition he encountered from the Britons during his short stay, scarcely afforded him a possibility of seeing any other districts of this country than those near which he landed, and in the direct tract through which he marched towards Conway Stakes, by far too small a distance to have enabled him to form any certain idea of the general produce of a whole country, or even of its neighbouring parts. In regard to those he traversed, the soil was certainly not adapted to the growth of the birch

tree, from which we may with great probability infer there were none growing there at that period, nor are there any throughout those tracks even at this time, a circumstance which most likely induced him to imagine, and afterwards to hazard the assertion before adverted to.

The plants, with which the cold unfertile lands in these parts, as well as some others in this county are covered, have been found of great use in bringing forward the crops sown upon them, either by their warmth, or some equivalent property they may possess. Heretofore the occupiers of these lands were anxious to have them collected, and carried off the ground, but having experienced the disadvantage of their removal, they very reluctantly submit to the surveyors of the highways collecting them. In this parish there are quantities of the *large whitish ash coloured shell snail*, of an unusual size. These are found near Dorking, in Surrey, and between Puckeridge and Ware, in Hertfordshire. They are not originally of this island, but were conveyed from abroad, many of them at this time being found in different parts of Italy.

This place was, at the general survey of Domesday, part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Bayeux, under the general title of whose lands it was entered. On the disgrace of that prelate, it was held of the king *in capite*, by barony, with other lands, by Jeffery de Peveril, being assigned to him for the defence of Dover castle, for which he was compelled to maintain a certain number of soldiers, as well as to repair and defend, at his own charge, a particular tower or turret there, afterwards called *Turris Gattoniana*, or Gatton's tower. In the reign of Henry III. Robert de Gatton, who derived his name from the lordship of Gatton, in Surrey, was in possession of the manor of Thrule, and died in the above reign, holding it by knight's service of the king, of the honour of Peverel. He was succeeded therein by his eldest son, Hamo de Gatton, who served the office of sheriff under Edward I. His eldest son, of the same name, left a male issue, Edmund, then an infant, who, dying under age, his two sisters became his coheirs, and divided his inheritance, when Elizabeth carried this manor to her husband, William de Dene, as well as all the Kentish estates; and Margery, the other sister, conveyed in marriage to her husband, Simon de Norwood, Gatton, and all the other estates in Surrey.

William de Dene had a charter of *free warren* for his lands in Throwley, under Edward II. who died under Edward III. holding this manor, by the law of England, as the inheritance of his deceased wife, Elizabeth. His son, Thomas de Dene, died possessed of the same in the above reign, leaving four daughters his coheirs, when Benedicta, the eldest, married John de Shelving, and entitled him to this manor, on whose death, likewise without issue male, his two daughters became his coheirs. Joan, married John Brompton, otherwise Detling, of Detling court, and Ellen, espoused John Bourne, the former of whom, in his wife's right, became possessed of this manor. He left only one daughter, Benedicta, his heir, who carried this estate to Thomas at Town, who possessed much land about Charing. He then removed thither in the reign of Henry VI., and built a seat for his residence in this parish, about a quarter of a mile from the church, and named it from himself *Town Place*. Soon after, dying, he left his possessions to his three daughters and coheirs, of whom Eleanor, married William Lewknor, of Challock; Bennett, espoused William Walton, of Addington; and Elizabeth became the wife of William Sondes, of this parish, and of Lingfield, in Surrey, in which county his ancestors had been seated as early as the reign of Henry III. Upon the division of their inheritance, the *manor of Throwley* was allotted to William Sondes, and *Town Place*, with the lands belonging thereto in Throwley, to Richard Lewknor, who sold them to Edward Evering, of Evering, in Alkham. His daughter, Mary, marrying in 1565, John Upton, of Faversham, she entitled him to this estate, which he soon after alienated to one Shilling, from whom it as quickly after passed by sale to Anthony Sondes, esq. of this parish. He, on the division of the inheritance of the coheiresses of Thomas at Town, as before mentioned, had become possessed of *Throwley manor*, when dying in 1474, he was buried in the north chapel of this church. The family of the Sondes's bore for their arms, *Argent, three blackamoors' heads, couped, between two chevronels, sable;* which, with the several quarterings borne by them, are painted on their monuments in this church. His descendant, Anthony Sondes, esq. of Throwley, in the reign of Henry VIII. procured his lands in this county to be *disgavelled* by an Act then passed; and died in 1575, leaving two sons, Thomas and Michael, and two daughters.

He was succeeded by his eldest son, Sir Thomas Sondes, sheriff under Queen Elizabeth, who founded the school in this parish, and died in 1592, leaving issue one daughter, Frances, married to Sir John Leveson, wherefore, upon his death, without male issue, his only brother, Sir Michael Sondes, of Eastry, succeeded to this manor, and seat of his ancestors, where he afterwards resided. He died in the reign of James I., leaving six sons and six daughters.

Sir Richard Sondes, his eldest son, resided at Throwley, and died under Charles I. having had by his two wives a numerous issue of sons and daughters, when he was succeeded in this manor and seat by his eldest son, Sir George Sondes, who was made knight of the bath at the coronation of Charles I. Shortly after that period he began to rebuild his seat of Lees court, in Sheldwick, and fixed his residence there, when the former mansion was soon after pulled down, but the foundations long remained, and the site of the park retained the name of Throwley park.

Sir George Sondes was afterwards created earl of Faversham, Viscount Sondes, of Lees court, and *baron of Throwley*, when his two daughters becoming his coheirs, Mary married Lewis lord Duras, marquis of Blanquefort, and afterwards earl of Faversham; and Catherine, Lewis Watson, earl of Rockingham, who each successively, in right of their respective wives, inherited this manor and estate. It then descended, in the same line as Lees court, in Sheldwick, to the right Hon. Lewis Thomas lord Sondes, who became possessor of this estate, with Town Place belonging to the same. A court-baron is held for this manor.

The Denne of Toppenden, or *Tappenden*, in Smarden in the Weald, is an appendage to the manor of Throwley, and held of the same.

Wilderton, otherwise *Wolderton*, also denominated in ancient deeds *Wilrinton*, is a manor in this parish, once forming part of the possessions of the eminent family of Badlesmere. Bartholomew of that name was possessed of the estate in the reign of Edward II., of whom, for his services in the Scottish wars, he obtained many liberties and franchises for his different manors and estates, among which was that of *free warren* in the demesne lands of this manor of Wolvington. Having afterwards associated himself with the discontented barons, he was

taken prisoner, and executed in the 16th year of that reign. Under Edward III., the judgment and process against him having been reversed, Giles, his son, in the same reign, died possessed of this manor. His four sisters becoming his coheirs, upon a division of their inheritance, this manor fell to the share of Margery, wife of William lord Roos, of Hamlake, who survived her husband, and died in the 37th year of Edward III. possessed of the same, as did her grandson, John lord Roos, under Henry V., leaving no issue by Margaret his wife, who survived him, and had this manor left her in dower. She afterwards married Roger Wentworth, esq. whom she also survived, and died in the reign of Edward IV.

On the death of John lord Roos, her first husband, the reversion of this manor, at her decease, became vested in Thomas, his next surviving brother and heir, whose son, Thomas, afterwards became a firm friend to the house of Lancaster, for which he was attainted under Edward IV. and his lands confiscated to the crown.

On the decease of Margaret, widow of Roger Wentworth, esq. the manor of Wulrington, whether by grant or purchase we have not ascertained, fell into the possession of Richard Lewknor, of Challock, also owner of Town Place, as before mentioned, when it was sold to Mr. Edward Evering, and subsequently to Mr. John Upton, of Faversham. He joined with his brother, Nicholas Upton, in 1583, in the sale of the manor house, with all the demesne land belonging thereto, excepting one small piece of land called the *Manor croft*, and a moiety of the manor, which, owing to its situation, was from that time known by the name of *North Wilderton*, to Anthony Terry, of North Wilderton. Upon his death the property went to his four sons, Arnold, William, Thomas, and George Terry, who in 1601 made a partition of their father's estates, when this manor was allotted to Arnold Terry, and William his brother, from whom it descended to Anthony Terry, of Ospringe, who in 1689 sold it to Mr. Thomas Knowler, of Faversham. He devised it to his sister Abigail for her life, and after her death to John Knowler, gent. of Ospringe, in fee. She afterwards marrying John Bates, they conjointly, with John Knowler, above mentioned, in the year 1694, joined in the sale of the same to Mr. Edward Baldock, of Aylesford, and Bennett his wife. He, surviving the latter, by deed of gift,

in 1717, vested the fee of this estate in his son, Edward Baldock, who passed it away to Mr. Thomas Greenstreet, of Norton. His niece, Elizabeth, marrying Mr. Thomas Smith, of Gillingham, she entitled her husband to this manor, which has since been sold to John Montresor, esq. of Belmont, in this parish. A court-baron is held for this manor.

THE REMAINING MOIETY of the manor, however, with a small croft, called the *Manor croft*, lying at the west end of Hockstet green, remained with John Upton, and thenceforward acquired the name of *South* or *Great Wilderton*, on whose death it went to his eldest son, John Upton, who died possessed of the estate in 1635, and was buried with his ancestors in Faversham church.

John Upton, his eldest son, inherited this manor, and at his decease, in 1664, he by will gave it to his daughter, Anne, wife of Charles Castle, gent. She in 1688 devised it to her brothers in law, George Naylor, and George White, the former of whom becoming solely possessed of the same in 1705, devised it to his nephew, Mr. John Dalton, gent. of St. Edmondsbury, for his life, and afterwards to his son, Thomas Dalton, and his issue; in consequence of which it descended to Benjamin Shuckforth, of Diss, in Norfolk. He, in 1741, sold the property to Mr. James Hilton, of Lords, in Sheldwich, on whose demise it descended to his three sons, John, William, and Robert Hilton; the youngest of whom, Robert, by the will of his two elder brothers, became the sole proprietor of this manor. He died in 1782, when his son, Mr. John Hilton, of Sheldwich, as next in the entail, succeeded to the estate.

In the reign of King Stephen there was an *alien priory* established in this parish as a cell to the benedictine abbey of *St. Bertin, at St. Omer's*, the capital of Artois, in Flanders. William de Ipre, in 1153, having given this church, with that of Chilham, for the above purpose, that gift was confirmed by King Stephen, and several of the succeeding archbishops, as well as by charters from Henry II. and III. The charter of this gift was preserved in the treasury of the monastery of St. Bertin, as were all the others, hereafter mentioned, relating to this church and priory.

In the reign of Edward I., Peter, prior of *Trivle*, (as that establishment was spelt in the record,) made fine to the king at

Westminster, had a privy seal for his protection, whereby he claimed the custody of the house and possessions committed to his charge, to retain the same during the royal pleasure, answering to his exchequer for the profits, according to the directions of his majesty and his council.

The site of this priory was where the parsonage of the church of Throwley stands, which, with that of Chilham, appears to have been all their possessions in this kingdom. These were valued in the reign of Richard II., A.D. 1384, each at £40 a year, and their temporalities at 20s. 6d. at which time the parsonage of Throwley was become appropriated to this cell, a vicarage being endowed therein. This priory so remained till the general suppression of the alien priories, throughout England, in the 2d of Henry V., A.D. 1414, when all their houses and revenues devolved to the king, and his heirs, for ever.

The priory and its possessions remained vested in the crown till Henry VI. settled them on the monastery of Sion, in Middlesex, founded by his father Henry V.; where they continued till the general suppression of religious houses, this being one of those larger monasteries dissolved by the Act, under Henry VIII.

How this establishment was afterwards disposed of, may be seen under the description of the parsonage of the church of Throwley.

The only remains of this priory are some few foundations, and two flint walls that support a building standing behind the parsonage house and garden.

A FREE SCHOOL exists in this parish, the house of which is situated adjoining the churchyard, the same having been founded by Sir Thomas Sondes, who died in 1592, and by will devised a house, and six pounds per annum, to the master, who should officiate and dwell there. The family of the Sondes' now appoints the schoolmaster, and pays him a salary of twelve pounds per annum, besides a house and garden, worth about six pounds more, which that family keeps in repair. Fourteen boys are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic, *gratis*, in this school, who, although taken chiefly from the parishes of Throwley, Badlesmere, and Leveland, are not confined to those districts.

THROWLEY is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Ospringe. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, consists of three aisles, and

the same number of chancels. The steeple is a square tower, standing in the centre of the south side, containing a peal of six bells, given in 1781 by Mr. Montresor, of Belmont. In the south aisle is a memorial for Francis Hosier Hart, gent., obt. 1761. In the centre aisle is a small monument for Stephen Bunce, esq. of this parish, one of the ancients of New Inn, who died there in 1634, and was buried in St. Clement's church, London. In the middle chancel are two stalls of wood, not fixed, and in the north aisle are three more of the same kind joined together, having a desk before them. In the north and south chancel are several monuments for the family of the Sondes', with their effigies, arms, and quarterings. One of them is a plain altar tomb of black marble, for Sir George Sondes, earl of Faversham, his lady, and descendants. Many more of the same family, as appears by the parish register, are buried in the vault beneath, but the family of Watson being interred at Rockingham, this vault has not been opened for several years. The north and south chancels above mentioned belonged, one to the possessions of Throwley manor, and the other to those of Town Place, but they now both belong to the family of Lord Sondes.

There were formerly in the windows the arms of the Sondes', the Finch's, and the Gatton's; and, in the north window, the following inscription: *Pray for the good estate of Alice Martyn, the which did make this window,* MCCCCXLV.

In the churchyard, at the west end of the north aisle, is a circular doorcase of stone, having several bordures of Saxon ornaments carved around it. In the churchyard is also an altar tomb for William Woodward, gent. of Wilgate green, obt. 1681.

It appears by the will of William Sondes, esq. A.D. 1474, that this church had then constantly burning within it, lights dedicated to St. Michael, and several other saints.

A vicarage was endowed here in 1389, in the reign of Edward III. by Archbishop Langham, at which time the chapel of Wylvington belonged to it. It was valued in the king's books at £7 11 8, the yearly tenths being 15s. 2d. In 1578 there were 180 communicants, and in 1640 its value was £45, the communicants amounting to 220.

In 1821, there were ninety-four dwellings in the parish of Throwley; and at the same period, when the last census of

the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 315, females 292, making a total of 607 souls.

LEVELAND ranks the next parish eastward from Throwley, and is but little known, being circumscribed, and situated mostly on high ground. The church stands towards the eastern side of the parish, with the court lodge adjoining.

THE MANOR was part of the ancient possessions of the see of Canterbury, being held of the several archbishops by knight's service, and entered under the general title of their lands in the survey of Domesday.

One Richard had a grant of this estate from Archbishop Lanfranc, for himself and his descendants, and, owing to their interest in this place, he most probably thence assumed his surname.

In the reign of Richard I. Nathaniel de Leveland held it of the archbishop, and, in the 9th year of the above reign, he and his son, Robert, were fined in sixty marks to the king, to have the custody of the king's houses at Westminster, and of the Fleet prison, which had been their inheritance ever since the Conquest. At length their descendant, Margaret de Leveland, carried this manor in marriage to Giles de Badlesmere, who was justice itinerant at the beginning of the reign of Henry III., but he having married her without the king's licence, could not obtain his pardon till about three years previous to his death, and not then without great intercession. He was slain in a battle against the Welsh in 1258, and his widow surviving, she afterwards remarried Fulk de Peyforer, who possessed this manor in her right, and died in the succeeding reign of Edward I. She also survived this, her second husband, without having had any issue by either, when Ralph de Leveland was found, by inquisition, to be her heir, and succeeded likewise to the custody of the palace at Westminster, and the Fleet. After his decease, Stephen de Leveland, his brother and heir, held both these places, and left an only daughter, Joan, who married, first, John Shenche, by whom she had a son, John, and secondly to Edward Cheyne, who in right of her inheritance became possessed of a life estate in this manor, and also in the bailiwic of the custody of the king's palace at Westminster. He surviving her, died possessed of both in the reign of Edward III. when John Shenche, her son

and heir, by her first husband, succeeded to this manor, as also to the offices above mentioned, of which he died possessed in the reign of Edward III. leaving Margaret his daughter and sole heir.

The above-mentioned estate in Leveland certainly did not contain the whole of this district, for Bartholomew de Badlesmere had some property here in the time of Edward II. as in that reign he obtained, among other liberties for his estates, *free warren* in his demesne lands in this parish. The family of the Northwood's had also a considerable interest here in the reign of Edward III., but whether from marriage with the family of Badlesmere, John de Northwood having married Joan, one of the daughters of Guncelin de Badlesmere, we have not ascertained. His grandson, Roger de Northwood, was found to die possessed of the manor of Leveland, in the time of Edward III., prior to the end of which reign, however, Richard de Poynings was become possessed of all their joint interests in this parish. He died possessed of the entire fee of the manor of Leveland, in the 11th year of Richard II. and on his demise, Isabel, his widow, daughter and heir of Robert lord Fitzpain, held it in dower till her death, upon which Robert de Poynings, their son and heir, succeeded to the same. He died possessed of the estate under Henry VI., being slain at the siege of Orleans, when Alianore, the only daughter of his son Richard, then wife of Sir Henry Percy, Lady Percy was found to be his heir, and entitled her husband to this manor, among the rest of her inheritance, and in her right, he was also summoned to parliament as Lord Poynings. That title he bore till he succeeded to the earldom of Northumberland, upon the death of his father, and in his descendants this manor continued down to Henry, earl of Northumberland. He dying in the reign of Henry VIII. this estate became vested in the crown, when the king granted it to Sir Robert Southwell, master of the rolls, who, under Edward VI. alienated the same, with other lands, to Sir Anthony Aucher. From the latter it passed by sale to Anthony Sondes, esq. of Throwley, afterwards earl of Faversham, whose two daughters, frequently mentioned before, inherited these estates, when it was subsequently possessed by the Right Hon. Watson lord Sondes. A court-baron is held for this manor.

The high turnpike road from Ashford, through Challock and

Sheldwich, to Faversham, runs along the east side of this parish, at a very small distance eastward from the church.

Leveland is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Ospringe. The church, dedicated to St. Laurence, is a small building, having one aisle and a chancel, with a low pointed wooden turret. Against the north wall of the church, is a monument for Mrs. Catherine Rooper, presenting her figure kneeling at a desk, and behind her a man in armour, with two escutcheons of arms.

The patronage of this church is in the possession of the family of the Sondes's.

This rectory was a discharged living in the king's books, of the clear yearly value of £30, the yearly tenths being 8s. In 1598 the communicants were twenty-one; whereas, in 1640, there were thirty-six, the yearly value being then £40.

In 1821 there were eleven dwellings in the parish of Leveland; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 34, females 35, making a total of 69 souls.

The next adjoining parish to *Leveland*, still farther eastward, is Badlesmere, usually called *Basmere*, being little frequented, and having scarcely any thoroughfare. It lies on the opposite side of the high road from Faversham to Ashford, which runs along its western boundaries, and is about six miles from the former, mostly on high ground; the soil being tolerably good. Near the above road stands the court lodge, called *Basmere court*, a mean farm-house, with the church adjoining.

In the next field, south-eastward of the church, the foundations of the ancient seat of the family of Badlesmere's are easily traced, and, from the number of apartments, it appears to have been a very large and noble mansion. There is an extensive piece of water, called the Cellar Pond, no doubt the spot where the cellars formerly stood. At the south-west extremity of the parish is Basmere Lees, over which the Ashford road passes.

Sir Thomas Randolph, an eminent statesman, in the reign of Elizabeth, and son of Avery Randolph, of Badlesmere, was born in this parish, anno 1523. He was in great favor with the queen, being employed in no less than eighteen different embas-

sies, and died in 1590, leaving a numerous progeny by one of his wives, sister of Sir Francis Walsingham. Bartholomew de Badlesmere was, *by writ, summoned to Parliament*, in the reign of Edward II. among the barons of this realm, by the title of Bartholomew de Badlesmere, *chevalier*. This barony, on the death of Giles lord Badlesmere, his son, devolved, by the marriage of Maud, the eldest of his four sisters, to John de Vere, earl of Oxford, and continued in his descendants down to John de Vere, the fourteenth earl of Oxford, and baron of Badlesmere in the reign of Henry VIII. He dying, the earldom descended to the male line of the De Vere's; but the barony of Badlesmere went to the three sisters of Earl John, last mentioned, viz. Ursula, married to George Windsor, and afterwards to Edward Knightley; Dorothy, to John Nevil lord Latimer; and Elizabeth, to Sir Anthony Wingfield; but this dignity being entire, and not divisible, they could possess it no otherwise than by a gift from the crown, and it therefore reverted to the king.

The four several earls of Oxford afterwards successively assumed and used the title of *baron of Badlesmere*. At length, after the death of Henry earl of Oxford, and baron Badlesmere, in 1625, there arose a dispute concerning their titles, when it was, in 1626, by solemn adjudication of Parliament, determined, that the earldom belonging to the heir male of the Vere's, the barony of Badlesmere, should be wholly vested in the king, to be disposed of at his pleasure, of which judgment the prince approved. At the period in question, the office of Great Chamberlain of England, which had for many descents been vested in the Vere's, earls of Oxford, was claimed by Robert de Vere, as heir male, and by Robert lord Willoughby, of Eresby, as heir general, when the earldom of Oxford was adjudged to the heir male of that house, and the office of chamberlain to Lord Willoughby, of Eresby.

This place, in the reign of the Conqueror, constituted part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Bayeux, on whose disgrace the manor was granted by the king to Hamo de Crevequer, and with other lands, made up the barony of Crevequer, being held of the king *in capite*.

Of his heirs this manor was held by the eminent family of the Badlesmere's, who thence assumed their surname. Guncelin de Badlesmere held this manor in the reign of John, who left one

son, and two daughters, Joan, married to John de Northwood; and the other, to John Coningsby.

Bartholomew succeeded to this manor, and then his son, Guncelin, who died in the reign of Edward I. and was buried in Badlesmere church, where his effigies, lying cross-legged, cut in wood, were remaining in the time of Phillipott. He held this manor of the king *in capite*, and left, by Margaret, his wife, heir of Ralph Fitzbernard, one son, Bartholomew de Badlesmere, who, from the greatness of his possessions, acquired the title of the *rich Lord Badlesmere of Leeds*. Of that castle he was, under Edward II. appointed constable, and obtained a grant, in fee, of the same, as well as the manor of Chilham. In the 11th year of Edward II. he was again governor of Leeds castle; and, two years after, obtained a grant to found a *priory* within his manor there, which was held *in capite*, for canons regular; and also that he might grant to them twenty-four acres of the demesne lands of the manor, to be possessed by them in perpetual alms. However, owing to the troubles which immediately after ensued to the Lord Badlesmere, nothing further was done towards that institution, till the reign of Edward III. when the king confirmed these several endowments. No further mention, however, being made of that priory, we imagine the design was altogether abandoned. The following year Edward II. constituted Bartholomew de Badlesmere constable of Tunbridge castle, who having been for several years steward of the king's household, was rewarded for his services with the grant of the castle of Leeds, in fee.

This great and powerful baron, after having received such signal favors, withdrew his allegiance, and joined with the earl of Lancaster and the other discontented nobles; for which he received a full pardon the following year. But, within a short time after, Queen Isabel being denied entrance into his castle at Leeds, the king became so highly incensed, as immediately to lay siege to that fortress, which he captured, with Margaret, wife of Badlesmere, and Giles, his infant son, as well as the rest of his children, who were sent prisoners to the Tower, when these lands were seized by the king. De Badlesmere then fled to the north, but being overtaken at Burroughbridge, was totally defeated, and, being sent to Canterbury, hanged at the gallows of Blean, near that city, when his head being cut off, it was set

on a pole at Burgate, and his body buried at the White Friars, of that city. The family of Badlesmere bore for their arms, *Azure, a fess between two gemelles gules;* which coat was afterwards quartered by the Vere's, earls of Oxford; the Manners's, dukes of Rutland; the Lord Scrope; Nevill lord Latimer; Lord Wentworth, of Nettlested; and other celebrated families.

The inquisition of the lands of De Badlesmere was not taken till the 3d year of Edward III. when that king directed his writs to the sheriffs of Kent, and many other counties, whereby the extent of his possessions may be seen, in order to restore them to Margaret, his widow. Hence it appears, that he died possessed of this manor of Badlesmere, leaving, by Margaret, his wife, sister and coheir of Richard de Clare, one son, Giles, and four daughters; Maud, married first to Roger Fitzpain, and secondly, to John de Vere, earl of Oxford; Margery, to William lord Roos; Elizabeth, to William Bohun, earl of Northampton; and Margaret, to Sir John Tibetot. Giles de Badlesmere, his son, having the process and judgment against his father reversed, had all his manors and lands restored, and was employed by the king in great offices of trust. Upon his death, his four sisters became his coheirs, and on a division of their inheritance, this manor was assigned to Maud, the eldest, wife of John de Vere, earl of Oxford, who in her right possessed the same. This family was descended from one who derived his name from the town of Vere, in Zealand, where the race had flourished, as earls of Guisne, for several generations. Alberic, or Aubery de Vere, came to England with William the Conqueror, as appears by the roll of Battle abbey, and was by him rewarded with several lordships, a fact recorded in Domesday; after which he married Beatrix, the Conqueror's sister. They bore for their arms, *Gules and or in the first quarter, a mullet argent;* which bearings may be seen in several places on the roof of the cloisters, and in the windows of the cathedral of Canterbury. John de Vere, above mentioned, was a nobleman of the most undaunted courage, and performed great and exemplary services in the wars in France, during which he died, in the English army, encamped before Rheims, under Edward III. In his descendants, earls of Oxford, and barons of Badlesmere, by their descent from Maud, sister and coheir of Giles lord Badlesmere, before mentioned, men illustrious not only from their high birth and alliance, but

the noble actions they performed, and the high offices of state they held; this manor continued down to John earl of Oxford, and baron Badlesmere, who, in the reign of Henry VI. being firmly attached to the house of Lancaster, was, on the accession of Edward IV. to the crown, attainted in Parliament, being then far advanced in years, and, with Aubrey, his eldest son, afterwards beheaded on Tower hill. Through this act of attainder, the manor of Badlesmere became vested in the crown, when it was granted by the king to Richard duke of Gloucester, his uncle, who afterwards obtaining the throne by the title of Richard III. it became part of the royal possessions, and was granted by that monarch to John Howard, duke of Norfolk, lord high admiral, in special tail. He was shortly after slain with the king at the battle of Bosworth field, in August 1485, and attainted in Parliament in the 1st year of the reign of Henry VII.

The manor of Badlesmere having been granted in special tail, as before mentioned, devolved to the possession of the duke's only son and heir, Thomas Howard, earl of Surrey, who after having been confined in the tower nearly four years, was restored in Parliament to the title of earl of Surrey, and reinstated in the king's favor, when, after serving him with honour and fidelity, he had a special grant of all the manors and lands of which the duke of Norfolk, his father, had died possessed. In the following reign of Henry VIII. he continued in favor, and by his prudence and valour, gained the memorable victory over the Scots at Flodden field. He received for that eminent service an augmentation to his arms, to him and his heirs male, and was advanced to the title of duke of Norfolk, with a grant of lands in special tail. He died in that reign, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Thomas, who had been, during his lifetime, created earl of Surrey; when, after performing signal services, both as a soldier and a statesman, he was, through the king's jealousy of his greatness, which was fomented by several of the newly created nobility, in the 38th year of that reign, commited to the Tower, when both himself and his son, the accomplished earl of Surrey, were attainted by special bills in Parliament. The earl was soon afterwards beheaded, and a warrant signed for the execution of the duke, but the king dying the same day, his executors did not venture to enforce the sentence at so critical a juncture.

The manor having thus come to the crown among the rest of the duke's possessions, seems to have been granted to Sir Robert Southwell, master of the rolls, whose brother, Sir Richard, had been the principal accuser of the late earl of Surrey. This family of Southwell, according to Camden, acquired its name from the town of Southwell, in Nottinghamshire, where it was originally established. The descendants, under Henry VII. had spread into Norfolk, Suffolk, and other counties, at which period John Southwell, M.P. for Lewes, in Sussex, had two sons, John, of Norwich, ancestor of the Lords Southwell, of the kingdom of Ireland, and of those seated at Kings Weston, in Gloucestershire; and Robert, who was ancester of Sir Robert Southwell, master of the rolls, as before mentioned, who bore for his arms, *Argent, three cinque foils, gules, charged with six amulets, or.* In the reign of Edward VI. he alienated this manor of Badlesmere, with 2000 acres of land in Badlesmere, to Sir Anthony Aucher, of Otterden place, who died possessed of the property under Philip and Mary, having held it *in capite* by knight's service. His eldest son, John Aucher, left an only daughter and heir, who, in the reign of Elizabeth, carried this manor in marriage to Sir Humphrey Gilbert, who was particularly distinguished by his eminent abilities and great courage. He was descended from an ancient family in Devonshire, being second son of Otho Gilbert, esq. of Greenway, by his wife, Catherine, daughter of Sir Philip Champernon, of Modbury, in that county. After the death of Otho, the above lady married Walter Raleigh, esq. and was the mother of the famous Sir Walter. The genius of Sir Humphrey led him to the study of navigation and the art of war, and he in consequence undertook many voyages of discovery; and, in the year 1578, sailed twice to Newfoundland, but while in those seas, his vessel being too small to resist the swell of the waves, was, about midnight, on the 9th of September, 1583, swallowed up, when Sir Humphrey and the crew perished. However, previous to his death, he had sold this manor to Sir Michael Sondes, afterwards of Throwley, whose grandson, Sir George, of Lees court, in Sheldwich, K.B. was, in the reign of Charles II. created earl of Faversham. This manor descended by female heirship to the Right Hon. Lewis Thomas lord Sondes. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Woods Court is a manor in the north-east part of this

parish, and was, from its ancient possessors, called *Godislands*. William de Godisland possessed it under Edward I. by knight's service, as did his descendant, Richard, in the reign of Edward III. He held this estate of the king *in capite*, by the service of one sparrowhawk, or 2s. at the king's exchequer yearly. He was succeeded by his son and heir, William de Godisland; but before the termination of that reign, this family seems to have become extinct, as Robert at Wood died possessed of the same under Richard II., A.D. 1382, when it acquired from him the name of the manor of Atwoods, being held of the king *in capite*. Guido atte Wode, of the parish of Bocton, possessed this property in the reign of Edward IV., and dying, was buried in Bocton church, before the high cross. By his will he gave this manor, called *Woodys court*, to his wife, Joane, for her life, and afterwards to his brother, Thomas atte Wode, except one piece of land, called Geroldysdane, which he ordered to be sold. Thomas atte Wode, above mentioned, was of Ickham, and died possessed of this manor three years afterwards, as appears by his will.

This estate then became the property of John Sayer, of Faversham, who, in 1517, conveyed it to John Cheney, gent. of Eastchurch, in Shepey, who sold it to Reynold Snode, gent. of Sheldwich, a family of some consequence in this part of Kent. Isabella de Snode is mentioned among the gentry of this neighbourhood as living in the reign of Henry III.; and there is also a hamlet of houses called from them Snode street. His son, Samuel Snode, became possessed of the property on his father's death, who, in the reign of Elizabeth, sold it to Gabriel Giles, of Sheldwich, when it was alienated to Thomas and Henry Unkle; the former of whom, in 1591, conveyed it to Mildred, widow of the latter, and sister of Nicholas Pemble. She remarrying Arthur Franklyn, gent. of Badlesmere, he in her right possessed it, and, by a fine levied in 1599, settled it upon their issue, Arthur Franklyn, from whom it descended to Mr. John Franklyn, who dying intestate, it passed to his kinsman. It was eventually sold by one of that name, in the year 1764, to the Right Hon. Lewis lord Sondes.

BADLESMERE is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Ospringe. The church, dedicated to St. Leonard, is extremely small, consisting

only of one aisle and a chancel. There is a memorial in this church, in old English letters, for Barbara, wife of John Writhe, garter king at arms, and daughter and heir of John Castlecombe, of Crickdale, who died in 1283.

There was formerly a small chapel adjoining the south side of this church, the foundations of which still remain, but it was fallen to ruin before the middle of the last century. In this chapel or chancel, which had a door opening into the centre of the aisle of the church, were the tombs of several of the family of Badlesmere.

It is a rectory and discharged living, valued at £46, the yearly tenths being 10s. 2½d. In 1578 there were thirty-four communicants; and in 1640 it was valued at £80 per annum, the communicants being then forty in number.

In 1821 there were sixteen dwellings in the parish of Badlesmere; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 54, females 59, making a total of 113 souls.

The next parish, northward, from Badlesmere, is SHELDWICH, written in ancient charters *Schyldwic.* The high road from Faversham to Ashford leads through this parish, from the former of which it is distant between five and six miles. It lies mostly on high and even ground, to which the land rises from the London road in rather a pleasant and healthy country. The church stands close to the Ashford road, along which the houses are dispersed, similar to those on the route leading to Sheldwich Lees, which is about a quarter of a mile distant.

This place was given, by the name of Schyldwic in 784, by Alcmund king of Kent, to Wetrede, abbot, and the convent of Reculver. That monastery seems, in 949, to have been annexed to Christ church, in Canterbury, by king Edred, but the estate of Sheldwich does not appear ever to have come into the possession of the latter, no notice being taken of it in any of the charters or records relating to the same; nor does it appear how it afterwards passed, till it became the property of the family of Atte Lese, in the reign of Edward I., at which period this estate seems to have comprehended the *manor of Sheldwich,* and became the property of that family. This line, in consequence

of its residence at the Lees, assumed the name of *At Lese*, their mansion being called *Lees Court*, a name which this manor soon afterwards assumed, being called THE MANOR OF LEES COURT, otherwise SHELDWICH. Sampson Ate Lese was possessed of the property in the above reign, and bore for his arms, *Gules, a cross, croslet, ermine.* His son, of the same name, left several children, and Lora, his wife, surviving, who afterwards married Reginald de Dike, he in her right resided at Lees Court, where he kept his shrievalty in the reign of Edward III.

Sir Richard At Lese, the eldest son, at length succeeded to this manor, and resided at Lees court, and served in parliament for this county in the 40th year of that reign, when, dying in 1394, he was buried with Dionisia, his wife, in the north chancel of Sheldwich church, where their effigies and inscription on brass remain. He gave this manor by will to John, son of Richard Dane, and his heirs male, with remainder to the heirs male of Lucy, his niece, one of the daughters and coheirs of his brother Marcellus At Lese, then wife of John Norton, esq. the other daughter, Cecilia, having been married to Valentine Barrett.

By the above will, this manor at length came into the possession of their son, William Norton, esq. who resided both at Lees court, and at Faversham. He died in the reign of Edward IV. and was buried in the church of Faversham, leaving two sons, Reginald, who became his heir to this manor, and dying in 1500, was buried in Faversham church. Reginald, his eldest son, of Lees court, left two sons, John, who succeeded him in this manor, and William, who was of Faversham, and ancestor to the Norton's of Fordwich. Sir John, the eldest son, lived here in the reign of Henry VIII. and resided first at Lees court, but marrying Joan, one of the daughters of John Northwood, esq. of Northwood, in Milton, he removed thither, after which, his grandson, Sir Thomas Norton, about the reign of James I. alienated this manor to Sir Richard Sondes, of Throwley. His son, Sir George, succeeding to the same, pulled down a great part of the old mansion of Lees court, the front of which was then built after a design of Inigo Jones, whither he subsequently removed from the ancient mansion of his family at Throwley.

He was a man of great power and wealth in this county, being deputy lieutenant, and sheriff in the reign of Charles I. when the weighty business respecting Ship Money was agitated.

Being a man strictly loyal in his principles, he underwent during the usurpation, many hardships, as regarded both his person and estates, all which may be seen in the narrative published by himself, in 1655. He therein observes, that during the period of the troubles, he had been injured in his goods and estates to the amount of nearly £40,000, having lost all his property at one time, together with his plate, jewels, and the rents and profits of his estates for seven years together, during the two first of which neither himself nor children enjoyed any thing, and, in order to prevent his estates from being sold, he was forced to compound for the same by paying the sum of £3,500. He also underwent personal injury, being imprisoned for several years, first on board of ship, and afterwards, with many other royalists, in Upnor castle, near Rochester.

After the restoration, he was, in consequence of his former sufferings in the royal cause, created by Charles II. A. D. 1676, Earl of Faversham, Viscount Sondes of Lees court, and Baron Throwley, for his life, with remainder to his son-in-law, Lewis lord Duras, and his heirs male. He died the following year at Lees court, and was buried in the family vault of Throwley church. Sir George Sondes was twice married, first to Jane, daughter and heir of Sir Ralph Freeman, of Aspeden, in Hertfordshire, by whom he had two sons, George and Freeman, who were both, in 1655, while youths, cut off by untimely deaths; the youngest murdering the eldest while asleep in his bed, at this house, for which horrid deed he was tried at the assizes, then held at Maidstone, and being found guilty, executed for the crime at Penenden heath, on the day fortnight afterwards, his body being interred in the neighbouring church of Bersted.

Sir George Sondes married, secondly, Mary, daughter of Sir William Villars, bart. of Brokesby, by whom he had two daughters, when the eldest dying without issue, the title and estates were adjudged to her surviving husband, then earl of Faversham. They afterwards descended to Lord Rockingham, who had espoused Catherine, his second daughter. Lewis lord Rockingham, resided afterwards at Lees court, and was made lord lieutenant of the county. He died in 1724, leaving two sons, Edward and George, the latter of whom died, and four daughters, viz. Mary, married to Wrey Sanderson, of Lincolnshire; Anne, died young; Arabella, married to Sir Robert Fur-

nese, bart., and Margaret, in 1725, to John lord Manson, ancestor of Lewis Thomas lord Sondes, as will be mentioned hereafter. Of the sons, Edward viscount Sondes, the eldest, died in 1721, during his father's lifetime, and was buried in Throwley church, having married in 1708, Catherine, eldest daughter of Thomas Tufton, earl of Thanet, by whom he left three sons and a daughter, Catherine, who in 1729 married Edward Southwell, esq. of King's Weston, in Gloucestershire. Lewis, the eldest son, succeeded his grandfather in the possession of his estates, and as second earl of Rockingham, and in 1737 was made lord lieutenant of this county. He died in December 1745, having married Catherine, daughter of Sir Robert Furnese, bart. of Waldershare, by whom he had no issue, when this manor, among the rest of his entailed estates, descended to his next brother, Thomas; Edward, the youngest, having died unmarried. He enjoyed his honours only for a short period, dying in the February following, unmarried, upon which the earldom became extinct, and the barony of Rockingham descended to his kinsman, Thomas Watson Wentworth, earl of Malton, afterwards created marquis of Rockingham.

This manor, however, with the seat of Lees court, and the rest of his estates, were by him devised to his first cousin, Lewis Monson, second son of John lord Monson, by Margaret his wife, youngest daughter of Lewis, first earl of Rockingham, and aunt to Earl Thomas, above mentioned, whom he enjoined to take upon him the surname, and use the arms of Watson.

At length the principal line of this family, whereof several had been from time to time knighted, and served in different parliaments, descended down to Sir Thomas, eldest surviving son and heir to Sir John Monson, brother of the admiral of that name. He was created a baronet in 1611, and from all accounts proved a very accomplished gentleman. He died in 1641, and was buried with his ancestors at South Carlton, having married Margaret, daughter of Sir Edmund Anderson, chief justice of the Common Pleas, by whom he had issue four sons and three daughters. Sir John, the eldest, became in 1645 possessed of Burton, in Lincolnshire, which became the family residence of his descendants, one of whom, Sir John Monson, K.B. was in 1728, under George II. created Lord Monson, and afterwards made a privy counsellor. He died in 1748, having married

Lady Margaret Watson, youngest daughter of Lewis, first earl of Rockingham, who survived him, and died in 1752. They left three sons: John, who succeeded as Lord Monson; Lewis, possessor of Lees manor and court; and George, who was a general in the army, and died in the East Indies.

Lewis Monson Watson thus having become possessed of this manor and seat, was, in 1754, chosen to represent this county in parliament, and in the same year was appointed one of the auditors of the imprest, and by letters patent, bearing date May 20, 1760, under George II. created Lord Sondes, baron of Lees court, to him and his heirs male. In 1752 he married Grace, second surviving daughter of the Hon. Henry Pelham, by whom he had four sons, Lewis Thomas, born in 1755; Henry, an officer in the army; Charles, who died young; and George, in holy orders. Lord Sondes died in 1795, having previous to his death settled this manor and seat on his eldest son, the Hon. Lewis Thomas Watson, who afterwards resided here, and in 1785 married Mary, only daughter and heir of Richard Milles, esq. of Nackington, by whom he had several children. On his father's death he succeeded to the title of Lord Sondes, and possessed this manor and seat. This family bear for their arms, *quarterly* first and fourth, *Watson, argent, on a chevron, engrailed, azure, between three martlets, sable, as many crescents, or;* second and third, *Monson, or, two chevrons gules.* Supporters on the *dexter* side, a *griffin, argent, gorged, with a ducal coronet, or;* on the *sinister, a bear proper, gorged, with a belt buckled, with strap pendant, argent, charged with two crescents, or. The crest, a griffin's head erased, argent, gorged as the dexter supporter, above mentioned.*

Copesham Sole, otherwise Copshole Farm, is an estate in this parish which remained for several centuries in the possession of the family of the Belk's, written originally *Bielke*, being of Swedish extraction. Stephen de Belk is mentioned in the *Testa de Nevil*, as having paid respective aid for land in this part of Kent, at the marriage of Isabel, sister to Henry III. Valentine and John Belk were of Sheldwich in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. John, the eldest, son of Valentine Belk, gent. also resided at Sheldwich, and died possessed of this estate in 1633, and was buried in this church. His son, William, D.D., was prebend of Canterbury, and dying in 1676, was buried in that

cathedral, leaving by Elizabeth, his wife, a son, Thomas, D.D. who succeeded his father in that dignity, and married, in 1677, Anne, daughter of Sir Henry Oxenden. He died in 1712, having devised this estate to his niece Mary, daughter of his brother Mr. Anthony Belk, auditor of the chapter-house of that church. She in 1713 married Mr. Bryan Bentham, gent. of Chatham, whose sons, Edward and Bryan, afterwards possessed this property under their mother's marriage settlement. Edward, in 1752, conveyed his moiety to his brother Bryan, and he by will, in 1767, devised the whole to his brother, Edward, for life, with remainder to his nephew, son of Edward William Bentham, who alienated this estate with *Southouse* lands in this parish, in 1775, to Lewis lord Sondes, whose son, the right Hon. Lewis Thomas, possessed the same.

Lords is a manor situated about a mile southward of Sheldwich church, on the Ashford high road, which had formerly owners of that name. It so remained till the reign of Richard II. when it passed into the possession of the family of the Giles's, one of whom, in the preceding reign, had been steward to the abbot of Lesnes, in which name the property continued till the year 1678, when Christian Giles marrying Mr. Thomas Hilton, gent. of Sheldwich, entitled him to the same. It then continued in that family down to Mr. John Hilton, who in 1782 became possessed of the same.

Selgrave, now usually called *Selgrove*, is a manor situated both in this parish and that of Preston; having, however, been for a long time separated into *moieties*, and become *two distinct manors*, whereof that lying within this parish, at the north-eastern boundary of the same, was formerly the property of the family of St. Nicholas, one of whom, Lawrence St. Nicholas, paid aid for it in the reign of Edward III. being then held of the honour of Gloucester. It then passed to Mr. Roger Norwood, of Northwood, in Milton, in whose descendants it remained for several generations, till it went by one of the coheiresses of John Northwood in marriage to John Barley, esq. of Herts. By one of that line it was alienated to the Clive's, of Copton, in the adjoining parish of Preston; soon after which this manor appears to have passed into the hands of the crown, when it was granted by Charles I. to Sir Edward Hales, knight and baronet, of Tunstall, in fee. He passed it to Sir Dudley Digges, of

Chilham castle, who died possessed of it in 1638, and by a codicil to his will devised the sum of £20 yearly for a running match at Old Wives Lees, in Chilham. After the death of Sir Dudley, the manor of Selgrave descended to his two sons, Thomas and John Diggs, esqrs. who in the year 1641 alienated the same to Sir George Sondes, K.B. since which it descended in the same manner as Lees court, in this parish, previously described, to the right Hon. Lewis Thomas lord Sondes.

The Sheerway, called Portway, otherwise Porters, or Selgrave lane, leading from Copton to Whitehill, in Ospringe, separates this moiety of the manor from the other.

HUNTINGFIELD is a small court held in this parish, which appears to have been an appendage to the manor of that name in Easling, and has continued in the same chain of ownership as that in Easling, both having been part of the possessions of the free chapel, or college of St. Stephen, in Westminster, till the dissolution down to the family of the Groves's, of Tunstall, when Richard Grove, esq. of London, devised it by will to William Jemmett, gent. of Ashford, and William Marshall, of London.

THE MANOR OF LITTLES, anciently called *Lydles*, is situated in the north-west part of this parish, and in those of Throwley and Preston adjoining. It was formerly owned by the family of At Lese, one of whom, Richard At Lese, possessed it, as appears by the chartulary of Knolton manor, in the reign of Edward III. How long it continued in his descendants we have not learned, but in later times we find it possessed by the Chapman's, of Molash, from which family it was alienated, with other estates in this neighbourhood, by Thomas Edwards and James Chapman, to Christopher Vane, lord Barnard, who died in 1723. He left two sons; Gilbert, who succeeded him in the title and his estates in the north of England, and William, who possessed his father's property of Fairlawn, and the estates in this county, having been, during his father's life, created Viscount Vane of the kingdom of Ireland. He left an only son, William viscount Vane, who, dying in 1789, gave this property by will to David Passillon, esq. of Acrise, who possessed the same.

SHEPHERD'S FORSTAL is an estate in the north-east part of this parish, which derives its name from the green or forstal so

called, and was, for many descents, in the possession of the family of the Ruck's, one of whom lies buried at Rye, having been a person of considerable note in the reign of Henry VIII. and bow-bearer to that prince. He bore for his coat-armour, *sable, a plain cross argent between four fleurs-de-lis, or.* The last of that name possessing this estate was Nicholas Ruck, who in the reign of Elizabeth, dying, gave it to his nephew, Mr. Nicholas Oliver, who, soon after the death of Charles I. passed it away, with other estates in the adjoining parish of Selling, to the presidents and fellows of Corpus Christi college, in Oxford, in whom it continued vested.

A branch of the family of Southouse, of Selling, resided for many generations in this parish; Robert, son of Henry Southouse, of Selling, by his will, in 1475, under Edward IV. devised to John, his son, his tenement in Sheldwich, with remainder to his son, Robert. Henry, son of Henry Southouse, of this parish, died in 1705, and was succeeded in his estates by his eldest son, Henry, who died in 1720, leaving one son and four daughters, when several of this name, descendants of the family, remained till lately in these parts. A portion of their lands, called Southouse, came afterwards into the hands of Mr. John Hilton, of Lords, who sold them to Lewis lord Sondes, when his son, Thomas lord Sondes, came into their possession.

Another parcel, called *Southouse lands,* devolved to the owners of Copersole farm, in this parish, and was possessed by Mr. Brian Bentham, whose grandson, Edward William Bentham, in 1775, passed it away to Lewis lord Sondes, whose son, Thomas lord Sondes, afterwards possessed the same.

Sheldwich is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Ospringe. The church, dedicated to St. James, is a handsome building, consisting of one aisle and a chancel, with a chapel in the centre of the south side of the aisle, and a small chapel on the north side of the chancel. The steeple, consisting of a tower, stands at the west end, having a beacon turret upon the summit, on which is a small leaden spire and vane. On the pavement is a brass plate, with the effigies for John Cely and his wife, who died in 1429; there is only a part of a coat of arms left, being full of eyes, which impaled another shield, now missing. In the aisle are memorials for the family of Southouse; and in the great chancel, one for

the Belk's; and another, with a brass plate, having a figure of Joan, wife of William Marrys, obt. 1431, under whose figure is a coat *nebulee*, and at one corner, *per pale and fess indented.* In the north-east chancel there is a stone, having a male figure in brass, with a lion under his feet, in memory of Sir Richard Atte Lese, with his wife, Dionisia, obt. 1394; and not far distant, is a large stone, with very old French capitals round the edge, nearly obliterated. The arms of Atte Lese appear in several parts of the north windows of the aisle; and there were also many others, now entirely defaced.

It was a vicarage, of the clear yearly certified value of £40, the yearly tenths being 13s. 8d. In 1587 the communicants were 120; and in 1640 it was valued at £40, communicants 160. The vicar received an annual payment of £5 from the dean and chapter of Canterbury, in augmentation of his vicarage. It is exempt from the payment of procuration to the archdeacon.

In 1821, there were ninety-five dwellings in the parish of Sheldwich; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 267, females 278, making a total of 545 souls.

Ospringe lies the next parish north-westward from Sheldwich, usually written in ancient records *Ospringes*, and takes its name from the spring or fresh stream which rises in this district.

The Town of Ospringe, as it is called, ranks a franchise, separate from the hundred of Faversham, having a *constable of its own;* but the rest of the parish is within the jurisdiction of that hundred.

The Borough of Chetham, in this parish, was given to the abbey of Faversham by Richard de Lucy, which donation was confirmed by Henry II., King John, and Henry III., and continued an appendage to the manor. A borsholder is chosen yearly for this borough, extending over Beacon farm, on the south side of the London road. There is also another small borough in this parish, called the *Borough of Brimstone*, for which a borsholder is elected annually at the same manor. It extends over Ospringe street, and a large bowling green, northward of the same.

The parish of *Ospringe* is large, extending nearly five miles

from north to south, though not more than two in breadth. The village or town of Ospringe, as it was formerly called, and now denominated Ospringe Street, stands on the high London road, between the forty-sixth and forty-seventh milestones; but the north side of the street, from the summit of Judde hill, as far eastward as the forty-seventh milestone, is within Faversham parish, the liberties of which town begin from the rivulet in Ospringe, and extend eastward, including the late Mr. Lypeatt's house. Thus that parish intervenes, entirely separating from the rest of it that part of Ospringe parish, at the northern boundaries of which are the storekeepers' house, part of the offices, &c. and some of the royal powder-mills; and in the town of Faversham, that parish again intervening, leaves a small part of West Street within this parish.

The grand valley, called Newnham bottom, through which the high road leads to Maidstone, lies at the western boundary of the parish. On the summit of the hill, eastward, is Judde house, built after a design of Inigo Jones, being a fine situation, commanding a beautiful prospect eastward, over a fertile extent of country, to the Boughton hills, and extending to the channel, to the north-east. But the large tract of woodland, of many hundred acres, which reaches to the gardens at the back, renders it rather an unhealthy situation. About a quarter of a mile eastward of Ospringe Street, was a good house, called, from the ancient oratory or chapel that formerly adjoined, *Chapel house.* This oratory was dedicated to St. Nicholas, and erected in order that a priest might say mass for the safety and good success of passengers, who left their acknowledgments for his pains. The residence belonged to Mr. John Simmons, whose son sold it to Isaac Rutton, esq. and he alienated the house to Mr. Neame, who built an elegant villa, to which he gave the name of Ospringe Place. In Ospringe Street are the remains of the Maison Dieu, on each side of the high road, close to the small rivulet, which crosses the street: this stream rises at Westbrook, at a small distance southward of the hamlet of Whitehill, at the back of which it runs, and at about a mile and a half distant; passing by Ospringe church, and the mansion of Queen court, a respectable farm-house, it turns a mill erected some years ago for the manufacturing of madder; having crossed Ospringe Street, it then turns a gunpowder-mill belonging to St. John's college,

Cambridge, but is now occupied by government. It afterwards turns a corn-mill, close to the west side of Faversham town, then supplies the rest of the government mills and works, and runs thence into Faversham creek, to which it serves as a very necessary and beneficial backwater. There is a *nailbourn*, or temporary land spring, eastward of Sittingbourne, that runs but once in several years, its failure and continuance having no certain periods; the breaking forth of which is held by the common people to be a forerunner of scarcity and dearness of provisions.

About a mile southward of Ospringe street, is the hamlet of Whitehill, mentioned before, situated in the valley, through which the rivulet takes its course. There are two houses of some account here, formerly owned by the family of the Drayton's, which had resided in this parish for many years. Robert Drayton died here in the reign of Edward IV. and was buried in the churchyard of Ospringe, being then possessed, as appeared by will, of a house called Smythes, with its lands and appurtenances at Whitehill. After that family had become extinct, one of the houses fell into the possession of one Ruck, and was escheated, for want of lawful heirs, to the lord of the manor, when it belonged to the Earl of Guildford. The other devolved to the Wreight's, one of whom, Henry Wreight, gent. died possessed of it in 1695, and was buried in Faversham church. His son, of the same name, resided here, and died in 1773, and his grandson, Henry Wreight, gent. of Faversham, sold it to John Montresor, esq. of Belmont, who afterwards possessed it. About a mile westward, on the hill near Hanslets Forstal, and the parsonage, was a newly erected house, called the *Oaks*, built on the site of an ancient mansion, called Nicholas, formerly belonging to the Drayton's. The wood grounds in the upland parts of this parish are very extensive, and contain many hundred acres. The soil of the district, from its large extent, varies, being in some parts a fine rich loam, and in others chalky and stony. A fair is held in Ospringe street, on the 29th of May.

Much has already been said in the former parts of these volumes of the different opinions of learned men, where the *Roman station* (called in the second *Iter* of Antoninus *Durolevum*,) ought to be placed. Most of the copies of that work make the distance from the last station, *Durobrovis*, which is

allowed by all to be Rochester, to the station of *Durolevum*, to be thirteen or sixteen miles, though the Peutongerian tables make it only seven. If the number sixteen be correct, no place bids so fair for having been the station in question as Judde hill, in this parish, which would then, in that case, have every probable circumstance in its favor. The Romans undoubtedly had some strong military post upon this hill, on the summit of which are the remains of a very deep and broad ditch; the south and east sides are still entire, as is a small part of the north side, but the west side has nothing left. Close within the southern part, is a high mound of earth, thrown up to a considerable height above the soil, round it; the site of Judde house and the gardens being enclosed within the same. The form seems to have been a square, with the corners rounded, and to have contained between three and four acres of land within its area. The common people call it King Stephen's castle, but it is certainly of a much older date. At a small distance on the opposite side of the high road, are several breastworks cast up across the field, facing the west; while at the bottom of the hill, in the adjoining field, are the ruins of a stone chapel, in which numbers of *Roman* bricks are interspersed among the flints. Amidst the south wall is also a separate piece of Roman building, about one rod in length, and near three feet high, composed of two rows of Roman tiles, about fourteen inches square, whereon are laid small stones hewed, but of no regular size or shape, for about a foot high, and then tiles again, and so on alternately.

When the new road from the summit of Judde hill, westward, was dug down, various fragments of Roman culinaryware, and a coin of Vespasian, were discovered, interningled with oyster shells; while in the gardens of Judde house, coins of Adrian, Marc Aurelius, Arcadius, &c. have been at different periods dug up. About a mile north-eastward, on Davington hill, almost adjoining Faversham, a Roman cemetery was discovered some years back, with many coins, urns, and other relics of antiquity. Similar discoveries have equally been made at the town of Faversham and adjacent parts, particularly on the skirts of the high London road. In addition to the above proofs, Bede frequently mentions that the *villæ regiæ* of the Saxons were generally placed on or contiguous to the sites where, in former ages,

the Roman stations had existed. However, notwithstanding these assertions in favor of *Durolevum* having occupied this spot, so much has also been urged in favor of *Newington*, that we leave the preference of either to the decision of our readers, who may designate the station according to their own judgments.

This district, at the period of the taking of Domesday survey, constituted part of the possessions of the bishop of Bayeux, under the title of whose lands it was therein entered. On the disgrace of that prelate, it continued for a time vested in the crown, for King Henry II. held it in demesne; in the 14th year of whose reign this estate paid aid, on the marriage of the king's daughter, by the hands of the sheriff, the same having been certified by the justices itinerant.

King John was at the manor of Ospringe, in the month of October, both in his 15th and 17th years; in the former of which Richard de Marisco, archdeacon of Richmond and Northumberland, there delivered to him the great seal. Henry III. however, having raised Hubert de Burgh to the dignity of earl of Kent, at the same period granted to him and his wife, Margaret, in fee, this, with other manors; but upon his demise, it reverted back to the crown, when, in the 19th of the same reign, that prince granted it to the trustees of his intended queen, Eleanor, daughter of Raymund, earl of Provence, by the title of the Ville of Ospringe, (*nomine dotis*,) for so long a time as Queen Isabella, his mother, should survive him, and at her death, the same to return to his heirs, which took place before the 27th of Edward I., A.D. 1299, when that prince assigned this manor, with other property, as a dower, to his queen, Margaret, sister of the king of France, this estate being then of the yearly value of £60.

In consequence of this property continuing in the hands of the queens of England, it acquired the name of THE MANOR OF OSPRINGE, otherwise QUEEN COURT. Margaret, above named, surviving the king her husband, died in the 10th of Edward II.; soon after which this manor, and the court lodge, called *Queen Court*, appear to have been separated, by grants made of them to different individuals, when they seem to have ranked as *two distinct manors*. The former appears to have been that year granted to Sir John Pulteney, to hold of the crown by the service of a rose, with the advowsons of all

churches formerly belonging to it, to hold *in socage* by the previous acknowledgment. This Sir John Pulteney was a personage of no small account, being afterwards in high favor with Edward III. and celebrated by historians for his piety, riches, and the sumptuous manner in which he lived. He was four times chosen to fill the office of lord mayor of London; and besides this manor, possessed that of Penshurst, with several others in this county and elsewhere. He died in the 23d of Edward III. and by an inquisition taken after his decease, was found to hold, for the term of his life, the manor of Ospringe of the king, as above mentioned, and that William de Pulteney was his son and heir by Margaret his wife, who afterwards espoused Sir Nicholas Lovaine.

Sir William, above mentioned, died in the 40th year of the reign of Edward III. having vested all his estates in feoffees, who afterwards, in pursuance of their trust, conveyed this manor and all other estates whereof Sir John had died possessed, to Sir Nicholas Lovaine, and Margaret his wife, previously mentioned, and their heirs for ever. He was succeeded in this property by his son Nicholas, who espoused Margaret, eldest daughter of John de Vere, earl of Oxford, widow of Henry lord Beaumont, by whom he had no issue. She, surviving, as did also her third husband, Sir John Devereux, died in the 10th of Henry IV. possessing this manor, in which she was succeeded by Margaret, sister and heir of her second husband, Nicholas Lovaine, who was twice married, first, to Richard Chamberlaine, esq. of Oxfordshire, and secondly, to Sir Philip St. Clere, of Aldham St. Clere, in Ightham, who, becoming entitled to this property in her right, died possessed of the same under Henry V., as did his wife Margaret, in the 1st of Henry VI. Their son, Thomas St. Clere, then succeeded, who died in the 12th of Edward IV. leaving an only daughter, Eleanor, who married Sir John Gage, ancestor of Lord Viscount Gage, and Sir Thomas Gage, bart. of Suffolk.

The manor was shortly after alienated to William Hungate, who died in the 3d year of Henry VII. possessing this property, held of the king *in capite*, by the service of one rose yearly if it should be demanded. Shortly after it became vested in William Cheney, esq. of Shurland, younger brother of Sir John Cheney, of Shurland, sheriff in the 17th of Edward IV. and again in the 1st of Henry VII. whose son, Thomas, by his second wife, at

length became heir to his father and uncle above mentioned, and was subsequently knighted.

Sir Thomas Cheney was a man of great account, having, among other honours, been made knight of the garter, lord warden of the cinque ports, and treasurer of the household of Henry VIII.; under Edward VI., a privy counsellor, in the 3d year of whose reign he acquired the manor and mansion of QUEEN COURT, as it appears to have ranked a manor from the period of its separation from that of Ospringe under Edward II. with the demesne lands in Ospringe, and the adjoining parishes, which under that monarch had been granted to Fulk Peyforer, from which name it was transferred to that of Leyborne, and, in the 20th of Edward III., Sir William de Clinton earl of Huntingdon, paid aid for the same. His widow, Juliana, surviving, died possessed of this estate in the 41st of the above reign, and leaving no issue, this property, with others, became escheated to the crown, since by the inquisition taken that year, after her death, no one was found who could claim her estates either by direct or collateral alliance.

After the above period this manor of Queen's court seems to have remained in the hands of the crown till the beginning of the next reign, namely that of Richard II., when it was purchased by the feoffees in trust for the performance of the last will of Edward III. towards the endowment of St. Stephen's chapel, in Westminster. This was afterwards, under Richard II. completed, and made collegiate, for a dean and canons, and other ministers, at which time Nicholas Potin was lessee of Queen's court, and resided here, the year before which he was sheriff of this county.

Part of the possessions of this foundation of Queen's court so remained till the 1st year of Edward VI. when by an Act passed, this collegiate chapel, and its revenues, were surrendered into the king's hands.

The above monarch, in his 3d year, then granted Queen court, with its appurtenances, to Sir Thomas Cheney, as before mentioned, to hold *in capite* by knight's service, so that he thereby became possessed of the entire fee of both these manors, which were from that time consolidated as one, with the mansion of Queen court, and the whole of the demesne lands. His son, Sir Henry Cheney, of Tuddington, afterwards Lord Cheney,

sold this *manor of Ospringe*, otherwise *Queen court*, in the reign of Elizabeth, to Richard Thornhill, citizen of London, for which purpose a fine was levied, and Lord Cheney afterwards granted and made over to him all liberties, franchises, royalties, &c. within the same, which he had ever possessed, or had in any shape a right to; which were claimed by Richard Thornhill, esq. and judgment given for them in his behalf by the barons of the exchequer. His descendants, of the same name, sold this estate to Henry Mellish, esq. of London, in the reign of Charles II. who died possessed of the manor about the year 1697, leaving Elizabeth, his widow, surviving. She died in 1707, bequeathing it to their only daughter, Mary, then wife of Sir John Stonehouse, bart. of Radley, in Berkshire, and she, in 1712, alienated it to Sir Robert Furnese, bart. who died possessed of the property in 1733, leaving by his second wife, Arabella Watson, a daughter of Lewis afterwards earl of Rockingham, one son Henry, his successor in the title and estates, and a daughter, afterwards married to her first cousin, Lewis earl of Rockingham.

Sir Henry Furnese, bart. survived his father but a short time, dying abroad under age, and unmarried, in 1735, upon which he was succeeded in this manor by Catherine countess of Rockingham, his sister, whose husband, the earl, dying in 1745, she afterwards remarried with Francis earl of Guildford. By the latter she had likewise no issue, and dying in 1766, gave this manor, among the rest of her estates, to her husband, whose grandson, the Right Hon. George Augustus earl of Guildford, afterwards possessed them.

A court-leet and court-baron is held for this manor, at the former of which a *borsholder* and *constable* are chosen yearly for the jurisdiction of the *liberty of the town of Ospringe*.

This manor extends into Ospringe, Graveney, Goodnestone, Cosmus Blean, Shottenton in Chilham, Selling, Staplehurst, Frittenden, the dens of Blackingley and Hackeridge, in Cranbrooke, and the den of Hamwold in Woodnesborough. A reeve is annually chosen at this manor.

PLUMFORD, and PAINTERS, are two estates in this parish, and were both formerly accounted manors, and belonged, like that of Queen court, to the free chapel or college of St. Stephen's, Westminster, on the suppression of which, in the reign of

Edward VI., the former of these manors was granted, among other premises, to Sir Anthony Aucher. He sold it to Thomas Colepeper, esq. who soon after alienated the estate to John Greenstreet, of Claxfield, in Linsted; who, in the reign of Elizabeth, purchased of Sir Henry Cheney, the manor of *Painters*, which had been granted by Edward VI. to his father, Sir Thomas Cheney. He died possessed of both these manors in the reign of Elizabeth; and his son, Peter Greenstreet, died in the same reign, leaving two sons, John and Simon, to the former of whom, by will, he gave his manor of Plumford, and to the latter that of Painters, otherwise Bayefield, several of which family lie buried in this church. The manor of Plumford, and other premises, at length descended down to Mr. Peter Greenstreet, gent. in whom the manor of Painters had likewise, by descent, become vested, and he alienated them both, with several other lands in this and the adjoining parishes, to Sir Henry Furnese, bart. of Waldershare, who died holding them in 1712, as did also his son in 1733. The latter possessor was succeeded by his only son, Sir Henry Furnese, bart., who survived his father but a short time, as he died abroad, in 1735, under age, and unmarried, when these manors became vested in his three sisters, and upon a division of the estates, Plumford and Painters were allotted to Catherine countess of Rockingham. The earl of Rockingham died in 1745, leaving his lady surviving, who remarried, as before mentioned, with the earl of Guildford, by whom she had no issue, and dying in 1766, gave these, with the rest of her estates, to her husband, whose grandson, George Augustus earl of Guildford, afterwards possessed them.

Part of the above-mentioned estate of Painters, or Bayfield, usually called *Bavell*, is situated near Bavell's forstal, and was alienated from the name of Greenstreet to that of Pordage, in which it continued some time, until sold to Mr. Whatman, of London, whose heir sold it to one Knowler. He passed it to the Dewys, of Surrey, whence by a daughter, it devolved in marriage to a Parker, the heirs of whose descendants, John Dewy Parker, of Surrey, were afterwards the possessors.

Brogdale, or Brokedale, is an ancient seat situated in the eastern part of this parish, near Whitehill, which in early times gave name to a family who resided there. One of that line, John de Brokedale, is mentioned as such by Southouse, in

his *Monasticon Faversham iense*. After that name became extinct, this seat fell to the possession of the Clerk's, John Clerk of Brogdale having resided here in the reign of Richard II. A. D. 1383, as appears by a release given by Robert, abbot of Faversham to him, in which he is so named and styled *Bedellus noster de Upland in Hund. de Faversham*. How it afterwards passed we have not found, but in the reign of James I. it was become the property of Head and Cline, and they, under the same monarch, sold it to Mr. John Knowler, of Faversham. He having married Mary, eldest daughter of Francis Pordage, esq. of Rodmersham, by whom he had several children, in his descendants, who resided at Brogdale, this property continued down to Mr. John Knowler, gent. who died in 1676. He devised it by will to his grandson, John, son of Mr. Robert Knowler, who most probably died before him, and also left a daughter, Mary, married to Mr. Robert Lukyn, of Ospringe, by whom she had Mr. Robert Lukyn, late of Faversham. Mr. John Knowler, gent. the grandson, resided at Brogdale, and died in 1700, leaving one son, John Knowler, esq. of Canterbury, who died possessed of Brogdale, then a farm-house, in 1763, leaving Mary, his wife, daughter and heir of Mr. John Russell, of Hawkhurst, surviving, who died in 1781. They were both buried in Faversham church, as were most of his ancestors and relations above mentioned, several of whom were, from time to time, mayors of Faversham. He left two daughters his coheirs, of whom Anne, the eldest, married Henry Penton, esq., M. P. for Winchester; and Mary, the youngest, to Henry Digby, lord Digby; who some years after joined in the sale of this estate to John Bax, esq. of Preston house, who afterwards possessed the same.

Brook, otherwise Westbrook, now generally called *Brook Farm*, is an estate in this parish, lying at Brook forstal, near Whitehill, which was so called from its contiguity to the brook, or stream, which runs near it. It was given to the abbey of Faversham as early as the reign of Henry II. by William, brother of that prince, the gift being confirmed to the above institution, among other estates, by that monarch, but whether it remained with the abbey till its dissolution, we have not ascertained.

In the reign of Elizabeth, this estate had passed into the possession of the family of the Drayton's, in which it continued down to William Drayton, gent. of Ospringe, who died in 1686,

and lies buried in this church, having been a great benefactor to the poor of the parish. By will he settled this estate upon his kinsman, Drayton Roberts, grandson of Joseph Roberts, gent. of St. Dunstan's, by Elizabeth, his first wife, daughter of Mr. Richard Drayton, gent. and he alienated this estate, in 1709, to Mr. Laurence Ruck, gent. of Whitehill, who by will, in 1714, gave it to his kinsman, Adam Ruck, of Folkestone. His three grandsons, and coheirs in gavelkind, Laurence, George, and Thomas Ruck, passed it away by sale to Mr. Thomas Ruck, gent. of Faversham, who died in 1779, when his four daughters became jointly possessed of this estate.

Elvyland, corruptly called so for *Elverland*, is a manor situated on the hills, in the south-west part of this parish. It seems in early times to have been part of the possessions of the eminent family of the Criol's, as John, a younger son of Bertram de Criol, was owner of this property at the beginning of the reign of Henry III. Nicholas de Criol was possessed of lands in Ospringe so late as the reign of Edward I., and was then allowed *free warren* in his lands here; and Elizabeth, daughter of William Nowell, held lands here of the king at that time by the sergeantry of paying every year a pair of gilt spurs, as appears by the pleas of the crown before the justices itinerant of that year. This estate of Elverland afterwards became part of the possessions of the hospital of Maison Dieu, founded in the above reign, in this parish, at Ospringe street, of which a further account will be given hereafter. In the roll of knight's fees, taken in the same reign, the master of this hospital is charged with the fortieth part of a knight's fee in Elverland, held of Nicholas de Girunde, who paid aid for it accordingly. In the 20th year of Edward III. this manor continued part of the possessions of that hospital, till the reign of Edward IV. when it was escheated to the crown in consequence of having no members left therein. The king then, by letters patent, granted the custody, or guardianship of the same, together with the whole of its revenues in this parish, to secular persons, in which state it continued till the reign of Henry VIII. when Fisher, bishop of Rochester, obtained the hospital, and all its revenues, for the better endowment of St. John's college, Cambridge; which were confirmed by the archbishop, the archdeacon, and the prior and convent of Christ church, in Canterbury.

The manor of Elvyland becoming thus part of the revenues of St. John's college, has been leased out, from time to time, for a term of years, and so continues to the present period.

The family of the Wraytles' was, for many years, tenants of this manor, and after them the Quested's, by a daughter of which name it went to the Allen's, after which the lease was sold to Mr. Kemp, who subsequently owned it. A court-baron is held for this manor.

At a small distance north-west from the above district, is an estate called HANSLETTS, which gives the name to an adjoining green denominated *Hansells*, or *Hansletts forstal*. This estate was anciently possessed by the family of the Greenstreet's, which owned much land in this and the adjoining parishes. One of that line, Thomas Greenstreet, gent. of Ospringe, possessed it in the reign of James I. as appears by the will of John Brewster, of Tenham, A. D. 1620, who devised an annuity out of this estate, of Thomas Greenstreet, gent. of Ospringe, called Hansletts, to his son Thomas. From that name it passed by sale to Arthur Whatman, esq. who in 1671 gave it by will to Ward and Sissill, and they joined in the sale of this estate, in 1677, to Thomas Pierce, of Challock, whose descendant, Thomas, devised it to Thomas and Henry, his sons, the latter of whom bought his brother's portion, and in 1744 left it by will to his sister Frances, wife of Mr. Thomas Nethersole, for life, with remainder to her children. The eldest of that line, Mr. Thomas Nethersole, in 1763, purchased the other shares, and in 1776 alienated the entire fee to Mr. John Hope, of Ore, who afterwards possessed this property.

CADES is a manor in this parish, situated on the hill, about a mile southward from Ospringe church, which was anciently called Lorendens, from the family of Lorenden, in Challock. It then passed to that of Cade, as it appears, by the *Testa de Nevill*, that Arnold Cade held it in the reign of Henry III. whence it acquired the name of Cade in addition to that of Lorenden. In the 10th year of the reign of Elizabeth, this manor was in the possession of Thomas Wood, of Ospringe, who alienated it to Mr. John Greenstreet, of Ospringe, by whom it was sold, in 1613, to Mr. John Platt. Arthur Whatman, esq. died possessed of the property in 1674, and lies buried in this church, having by will left a yearly benefaction from his two farms in Ospringe,

called Cades and Cokes, to be paid for ever, to the poor of Boughton Blean parish. It then passed to Richard Penner, and from him to John Buller, esq. whose daughter carried it in marriage to John Dintry, of Wye; and he, in 1685, alienated this property to Thomas Turner, esq. of London, who, in 1704, settled it on his daughter, Mary, in marriage with William Hammond, esq. of St. Alban's, in Nonnington. It then descended to William Hammond, of Canterbury, who dying intestate, the estate went to his sister, Elizabeth Beake, widow, who sold it, in 1750, to Mr. Thomas Mantell, surgeon, of Chatham; and in 1757 it was alienated to Edward Jacob, esq. of Faversham, who dying in 1788, his widow became possessed of the same.

Putwood is an estate lying in this parish, and was once accounted a manor, though it now consists only of a tenement and some woodland, being situated on the east side of the road leading through Sindal valley to Hollingbourne. It anciently belonged to a family which assumed its name from Vienne, in Dauphiny, in the kingdom of France. William de Vienne, or Vienna, held this manor by knight's service, in the reign of Edward I., whose descendant, Lucas de Vienna, died about the 17th year of Edward III., and his widow paid aid for this estate in the 20th year of that reign, which she then held of the king at Putwood, in Ospringe; but, in the 30th year of the same prince, John de Porkelswode, as appears by a release of that date, became proprietor of this property, and he, with Robert de East Dane, a place likewise in this parish, are mentioned as witnesses to another deed of nearly the same period. However, in the next reign of Richard II. the Quadring's were possessed of this property; from which name it went by sale, about the latter end of the reign of Henry IV. to the ancient family of the Goldwell's, of Great Chart, one of whom, James Goldwell, bishop of Norwich, in 1472, under Edward IV. became possessed of the estate, and settled this manor on a chantry, which he obtained license to found in the south chancel of Great Chart church, wherein he was afterwards entombed. By an inquisition afterwards made, it is stated to have been founded by Nicholas Goldwell, clerk.

This manor continued the estate for the support of this chantry until its dissolution, in the 1st year of Edward VI., by the Act passed for the suppression of all such foundations, but the manor

never passed into the hands of the crown, but was concealed by the possessors of the same, upon which Queen Elizabeth issued her writ to William Cromer, esq. sheriff of this county, to cause inquiry to be made by inquisition, when it appeared that the manor of Putwood, and eighty acres of land, in Ospringe and the adjoining parishes, belonged to the chantry in the church of Great Chart, and that it was valued in the whole at £4 6 8, which revenue then belonged to the queen, having been unjustly withheld from her since the period of the dissolution of the chantry, but by whom was not ascertained.

What proceedings were afterwards adopted we have not found, but it appears that the queen, in her 12th year, granted it to Hugh Townsell and Ralph Pistor, to hold by the like service, in which it had been before held. It was for some time tenanted by the family of the Hales's, and afterwards alienated to Mr. Thomas Sare, of Provenders, in Norton, whose heirs sold it to Mr. James Hugesson, of Dover. He dying in 1637, gave this manor by will to his second son, whose descendant, Mrs. Jane Hugesson, entitled her husband, Mr. John Roberts, of Canterbury, to its possession, but on his death, the property, by the entail, became vested in that branch of her family seated at Provenders, in Norton. It then descended, in the same manner as that seat, to William Western Hugesson, esq. of Provenders, since whose death, in 1764, it became the property of his two surviving daughters and coheirs, Sarah and Dorothy, afterwards married to Sir Joseph Banks and Sir Edward Knatchbull, barts. who in right of their wives possessed this manor in undivided moieties.

Judde house, commonly called the *Folly house*, is an elegant mansion, situated on a hill, about a mile from Ospringe street, on the south side of the high road, from which there is an avenue to the mansion.

The church or priory of Rochester was in very ancient times possessed of lands in this parish, and King John, in his 2d year, granted to Gilbert, bishop of Rochester, five acres of his demesne wood in Ospringe, to hold in free, pure, and perpetual alms. After which Henry de Sandford, bishop of Rochester, in the reign of Henry III. granted to Nicholas, son of Gervas de Ospringe, and Dulcia his wife, his land, with the wood he had in Ospringe, which was within that manor, and

five acres of wood, which King John gave, as above mentioned, to his predecessor, Bishop Gilbert, to hold to them and their heirs by hereditary right for ever.

The prior and convent of Rochester afterwards became possessed of land in Ospringe, which appears exactly to answer those above described, but whether they were the same, we are not certain. They however owned lands here soon after the above time, and continued so to do at the period of the suppression of the priory, in the reign of Henry VIII. when it was surrendered to the king, who, the following year, settled them on his new founded dean and chapter of Rochester, in whom they remained vested.

On the abolition of deans and chapters, soon after the death of Charles I., and their lands being sold, this estate at Ospringe passed into the possession of one Daniel Judde, a busy committee man, and a sequestrator of the royalists' estates, during those trublesome times, who believing that his possession would continue firm to him and his heirs, built for his residence, about the year 1652, an elegant seat; but when the dean and chapter were re-established, on the Restoration, this man was deprived of his estate, which thence acquired the name of *Judde's Folly*. In later times it was held on lease, under the dean and chapter, by Clayton Milbourne, esq. M.P. for the town of Monmouth. He died in 1726, leaving two sons and one daughter, with his widow, surviving, who, about the year 1765, sold her interest therein to James Flint, esq. high sheriff; and he dying in 1790, leaving a wife and several children, Mrs. Flint afterwards resided there. This estate pays a reserved rent of £6, and a couple of wild fowl, to the dean and chapter.

Syndal is a house and estate, situated about half a mile, westward, from Judde house, in the valley called Newnham, otherwise Syndal, but more properly Syndane valley, on the road leading from Ospringe, over Hollingbourne hill, to Maidstone, and at one field's distance from the high London road.

This estate, as well as others situated in Syndal valley, thence derives its name, and was formerly the property of the family of the Upton's, of Faversham, one of whom, Mr. John Upton, owned it in the 12th year of King James I. when it became the estate of Mrs. Anne Hayward, who carried it in marriage to Mr. John Wood. He devised it to his only daughter, Zutpha-

nia, and she conveyed it in marriage to her husband, Robert Owre, gent. whom she survived. In 1662, it was alienated to Onesephorus Rood, gent. of Ospringe, who left issue two sons, Onesephorus, who died unmarried in his father's lifetime; and Emery, who became his heir, and died possessed of this estate in 1727, whose sons successively possessed it. Emery, his heir, in 1753, demised it to his eldest son, Mr. Emery Rood, who resided here, and sold this estate, in 1781, to John Montresor, esq. of Belmont, who afterwards possessed this property.

THERE WAS AN HOSPITAL, or MAISON DIEU, here, the principal house of which, as well as the church belonging to the same, were situated close to the stream, on the north side of Ospringe street, though there were two buildings or chambers belonging to it, on either side of the stream, almost opposite.

This hospital was founded by King Henry III. about the year 1235, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It consisted of a master and three regular brethren, of the order of the Holy Cross, and two secular clerks, whose office was to celebrate mass for the soul of the founder, and the souls of his royal predecessors and successors, as well as to the hospitable, and to afford entertainment to the poor and needy passengers and pilgrims. There was also a chamber, wherein the king was accustomed to repose when he passed this way; from which branched another, called *Camera Regis*, or *the King's chamber;* and they were especially ordered to relieve poor lepers, a distemper at that time very common among the lower people, in consequence of their continually feeding upon fish; wherefore, to prevent infection, apartments were provided in a second house, built on the other side of the lane, opposite the hospital.

In the year 1245, Robert, abbot of St. Augustine's, Canterbury, granted to the brethren of this hospital, wearing the habit, and the diseased who happened to die therein,(but to no one else,) the right of burial, so that all emoluments on that account should be paid to the church of Faversham, on the chief yearly festivals; for which privilege they were annually to pay to the abbot 12d. free rent, at Easter, and one wax taper of two pounds to the church of Faversham, on the day of the assumption. Notwithstanding the above restriction, we find that Alexander Roger, of Ospringe, by his will, in 1474, ordered that he should be interred in this church of St. Mary the Virgin, of Mesyndew,

and devised to the brothers, for the burying his body in the nave, 6s. 8d.

Upon the death of the master, the brethren were to choose one of their own body, to be presented to the king for his consent, and afterwards to be instituted by the archbishop.

The revenues whereby this house was endowed lay at Elverland, and other parts of this parish, as well as in Faversham, and several other parishes in this county. In the 8th year of Richard II. A.D. 1384, on a taxation, the revenues of this hospital were valued, with the church of Hedcorne, at £13 6 8, and the temporalities at £51 5 per annum.

This hospital flourished till the reign of Edward IV. when Robert Darrel, master of the same, dying, and one of the brethren very soon afterwards, the remaining two members, conceiving that their deaths had been occasioned by the plague, forsook the house, upon which it became escheated to the crown, when Henry VIII. in his 6th year, granted the custody of the same to John Underhill, clerk, to hold during his life; but John Fisher, bishop of Rochester, through his interest with the queen, and by the influence of Cardinal Wolsey, obtained a grant of it and its possessions to the master and fellows of St. John's college, in Cambridge. John Underhill, then, in consideration of his surrender of the property, had £40 paid him, and a yearly pension of £30 for life. This grant to St. John's college was afterwards confirmed by the king, by other letters patent, in his 11th year, and likewise by the archbishop, the archdeacon, and the prior and convent of Canterbury, where it remains, with all its possessions, part of the revenues of the above-mentioned college.

There are still some remains left of this hospital; the walls of the two chambers, on the south side of Ospringe Street, now constituting the under part of two dwelling-houses; those of the hospital itself, on the opposite side, enclose a public-house; and the walls of the church adjoining, now in ruins, still remain, being built of flint, with ashlar-stone window and door cases. In a small window frame of that part, on the south side of the street, were carved two shields, on one of which was a single, and on the other a double cross, viz. one upright, and two transverse pieces; but they have been so enclosed as now scarcely to be discernible.

This parish is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION

of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Ospringe. The church stands within the jurisdiction of the town of Ospringe, about half a mile, southward, from Ospringe Street. It is dedicated to Sts. Peter and Paul, being very ancient, and consisting of three aisles and a chancel. The steeple was formerly at the west end, being circular, and built of flints, supposed to be Danish, surmounted by a shingled spire, upwards of fifty-feet high, containing four bells. However, while ringing a peal, on the 11th of October, 1695, in honour of King William's return from Flanders, it fell to the ground, when, most providentially, no person was injured. There are no vestiges left of any painted glass, in the windows of which there was formerly a great deal. In the north aisle was once the figure of a mitred bishop on the rack, with a knife on a table beside him, and near, a figure tied to a tree, and wounded by arrows. In another was a label, to the memory of Robert Seton, and the effigy of a woman kneeling. Some years back, there also existed, in the east window, at the end of the south aisle, forming a kind of chancel, the effigies of a knight in his tabard of arms, wearing spurs, in a kneeling posture, looking up at a crucifix, painted just above him, of which there remained only the lower part. The arms of the knight were, *Azure three harts' heads, caboshed, or;* and at a little distance some part of his crest, *an hart's head attired full or, with a crown about its neck, azure,* and underneath, *Pray for the soul of Thomas Hart.* This Sir Thomas Hart was possessed of an estate in the parish, which he purchased of the Norwood's. The family of Greenstreet, of Selling, some time back, claimed this chancel, wherein several of that name are buried. There was also a chapel, dedicated to St. Thomas, in this church.

In the east part of the cemetery was once a chapel, said to have been built by Sir John Denton, of Denton, in this parish and Easling, the foundations of which are still visible.

It appears, by the *Testa de Nevil,* taken in the reign of Henry III., that the church of Ospringe was in the king's gift, and afterwards bestowed by King John upon John de Burgo, who then held the same, and that it was worth forty marks. In the reign of Richard II., A.D. 1384, it had become appropriated to the abbot of Pontiniac, and was valued at £13 6 8, at which time there was also a vicarage here, under his patronage.

It then became part of the possessions of the Maison Dieu, in Ospringe Street, but by what means we have not found, and so continued till the escheat of the hospital, under Edward IV. This parsonage was subsequently obtained by Bishop Fisher, as before mentioned, for St. John's College, in Cambridge, where it was vested.

The lessee of the parsonage, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, was Robert Strenysham, esq. who rebuilt the house and offices belonging thereto, where he afterwards resided. He had been fellow of All Souls' college, LL.B., and secretary to the Earl of Pembroke, and was buried in this church, having borne for his arms, *Or, a pale dancette, gules.* He left two daughters and coheirs; of whom Audrey, the eldest, carried her interest in this estate in marriage to Edward Master, esq. eldest son of James Master, of East Langdon. He was twice married, and had fourteen children; at length, worn out with age, he died here, at the residence of his eldest son, in 1631, aged eighty-four, and was buried in this church. In their descendants it continued till alienated to the Buller's, of Cornwall, one of whom sold his interest in this estate to one Markham, who passed it to Mr. Robert Lyddel, merchant, of London; who, in 1715, assigned his interest to Ralph Terry, yeoman, of Knolton. His son, Mr. Michael Terry, of Ospringe, devised it to his only daughter and heir, Olive, who married Nathaniel Marsh, esq. of Boughton Blean, when the heirs of his son, Terry Marsh, esq. subsequently became the lessees.

The vicarage of Ospringe was valued in the king's books at £10, and the yearly tenths at £1. In 1640 the valuation was £60, the communicants 226.

The vicarage is endowed with all vicarial tithes, wood excepted. The mansion appertaining thereto is situated in the valley, at a small distance, eastward, from the church, and the parsonage house near a mile southward of the same.

In 1821 there were 148 dwellings in the parish of Ospringe; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 452, females 460, making a total of 912 souls.

OSPRINGE was formerly the head of a rural deanery, of which institution it will now be necessary to give some account.

The office of rural dean was not unknown to our Saxon ancestors, as appears by the laws of King Edward the Confessor; they were called both *Archipresbitiri* and *Decani Temporarii*, to distinguish them from the deans of cathedrals, who were *Decani Perpetui*. In addition to these, there were, in the great monasteries especially, those of the Benedictine order, such officers, called deans; and there are deans still remaining in several of the colleges of the Universities, who take care of the studies and exercises of the youth, acting as a check on the morals and behaviour of such as are members under them.

The ancient exercise of their jurisdiction in the church seems to have been instituted in conformity with the same subordinations in the state. Thus, the dioceses within this realm, appear to have been divided into *archdeaconries* and *rural deaneries*, to make them correspond with the like division of the kingdom into counties, and hundreds; hence the former, whose courts were to answer those of the county, had the county usually for their district, and thence derived their title, and the names of the latter from the hundred or chief place wherein they acted. As in the state every hundred was at first divided into ten tithings, or fribourgs, and every tithing was made up of ten families, both of which retained their original names, notwithstanding the increase of villages and population. In the church, therefore, the name of deanery continued, and the districts being contracted and enlarged from time to time, at the discretion of the bishop, *the rural dean of Ospringe* had jurisdiction over the whole deanery, which consisted of twenty-six parishes. He had also a seal of office, which, being temporary, only bore the name of the office, and not as other seals of jurisdictions, the name of the persons engraved thereon. The seal belonging to this deanery was impressed with the image of the Virgin Mary, crowned, having a sceptre in her left hand, and the infant, with the glory round its head, in her right, while round the margin were the words, *Sigilla Decani Decanatus de Ospringe*. He was, in ancient times, called the *dean* of the *bishop*, being appointed by him, and had alone the inspection of the lives and manners of the clergy, and people, within the district under him. His duty was to report the same to the bishop, that he might have a thorough knowledge of the state and condition of his respective deaneries. He had also power to convene rural chapters, which

were composed of the instituted clergy, when informations were laid respecting all irregularities committed within their respective parishes. Those upon common occasions were held every three weeks, in imitation of the courts of manors, but their more solemn and principal chapters assembled once a quarter, where matters of greater import were transacted, and a fuller attendance given. Another part of the duty of a rural dean was to execute all processes of the bishop, but, by the orders of the pope's legate, Otho, the archdeacon, in the reign of Henry III. was required to be frequently present at those assemblies, who, being superior to the rural dean, did, in effect, take the presidency out of his hands. These chapters were afterwards often held by the archdeacon's officials, from which may be dated the decay of rural deaneries, as the power possessed by the archdeacon drew the business usually transacted there to his own visitation, or chapter; and by this interference it happened, previous to the reformation, that the jurisdiction of rural deans became almost a nonentity; and, no steps being taken by the legislative power, to restore their authority, they ultimately ceased, in most deaneries, Ospringe being one of the first that underwent the change. Where they still continue, they have only the name and shadow left, and the little remaining of this dignity and jurisdiction depends greatly on the custom of places, and the pleasure of the diocesans.

In the 31st year of Edward I. Richard Christian, dean of Ospringe, being sent to execute some citations of the archbishop at Selling, was set upon by the people, who placed him with his face to his horse's tail, which they compelled him to hold in his hand, in lieu of a bridle, in which manner they led him through the village, accompanied by songs, shouts, and dancing; and, having cut off the tail, lips, and ears of the beast, they threw the dean into the dirt, to his great disgrace; for which the king directed his writ to the sheriff, to make inquiry, by inquisition, and a jury, concerning the said outrage.

The next parish eastward is PRESTON, written in ancient records both *Prestentune* and *Prestetone*, which name it is supposed to have derived from its belonging to the church, that is to say *Priestotown*. It is now called *Preston* near Faversham, to distinguish it from another parish of the same name, near Wingham.

The high road from London to Canterbury runs through this parish, situated at the forty-seventh milestone, and from which the town of Faversham is distant only 200 yards, great part of Preston street being within its boundaries, which may be said to form the village, as there is no other. The church and vicarage stand at a small distance eastward of this street, and the same distance northward from the London road. Near the latter is the new-built seat of Preston house, the high road from Faversham to Ashford crossing the London road, along the centre of this parish; eastward of which are the estates of Mackner, and a mile higher up, Westwood and Copton, both respectable farm-houses. *Perry court* is situated on the south side of the London road, near Chapel house, and the western boundary of the parish, next to Ospringe.

The parish lies on a descent to the northward, and from being exposed to the marshes, though in a fine pleasant country, is far from healthy, especially in the lower parts, where the land is fertile, and the fields large, and unencumbered by trees.

This parish is separated from the main part of the district by others intervening; as Hamme Marsh, lying at a distance, near the marshes northward of Davington hill, is a parish which entirely separates this part from the rest. A portion of the parish of Luddenham also lies entirely surrounded by Preston, the east end of the great field before Perry house being considered as belonging to that parish.

PRESTON was given by the name of the principal manor therein, called *Copton*, anciently written *Coppanstane*, with its appendage of Hamme Marsh, by Cenulph, king of Mercia, after having made the kingdom of Kent tributary to him, in the year 822, to Wlfred, archbishop of Canterbury, L.S.M.; that is, *libere sicut Middleton;* endowed with the same privileges and franchises as Middleton had originally been.

Owing to the contests which were then carried on, by those petty kings, each of whom, as he happened to rise in power, dispossessed his neighbour of his dominions, this manor appears to have been wrested from the church of Canterbury, and again restored in 941, under the name of *Prestantun*, by King Edmund, who gave it to the monks of Christ church, for the use of their refectory. In that state it continued at the time of

the taking the survey of Domesday, in 1084, when it was entered under the title of lands belonging to that monastery.

In the 22d year of King Edward I., A. D. 1293, there was a composition made between the prior and convent, and Sir John de Rokesle, lord of Westwood manor, whereby the several services due from him as such, to the prior and convent, for their manor of Copton, were released on the payment of a small yearly rental, in lieu thereof.

King Edward II. in his 10th year, granted to the prior and convent *free warren* in all their demesne lands, which they possessed in Copton and Ham, among other places, at the time of the charter granted to that fraternity, by his grandfather Henry III., about which period the manors of Copton and Ham were valued at £25 yearly income.

In this state these lands continued till the dissolution of the priory in the 31st of Henry VIII. when they were surrendered to the king who settled them on his new erected dean and chapter of Canterbury, in whose possession they still remain.

A court-leet and court-baron is held for these manors, which extend into Davington, Luddenham, Stone, and Buckland, at which court a borsholder is chosen for the *borough of Copton and Stone.*

During the reign of Henry VIII. the prior and convent had leased their manors of Copton, Selgrave, and Ham, near Faversham, to Thomas Harrington, at the yearly rent of £22, with other perquisites, which lease being also surrendered to the king, he granted that individual another at the yearly rental of £43.

It has been previously mentioned before, under the head of Sheldwich, that the manor of *Selgrave* is situated both in that parish, and this of Preston, but that it was afterwards separated into moieties. Of the moiety in Sheldwich, an account has already been given, and as regards the moiety in this parish, the family of Northwood seems to have possessed it. In the reign of Edward III. it was alienated from that line to Sir Ralph de Spigurnell, admiral of the king's fleet, on whose death he devised it to his wife Elizabeth, who sold it about the 19th year of Richard II. to the prior and convent of Christ church, in Canterbury, for 350 marks sterling, being the money given to that fraternity by Joane Burwash, on condition of their founding a

perpetual chantry for her in the church of their priory, and that her tomb there should be honourably kept up. With that establishment it remained till the dissolution, when, being surrendered to the king, he settled it on his new erected dean and chapter of Canterbury, whose inheritance it continues. A court-baron is held for this manor.

The Shyreway, or lane called *Portway*, otherwise *Porter's*, or *Selgrave lane*, leading from Copton, to Whitehill, in Ospringe, seems to separate this moiety from the other, on the south side of this lane. At the entrance of the same, adjoining Copton, under a yew tree, is a hole, where the court manor is called, which spot appears to have been the site of the ancient manor house.

Westwood is an eminent manor in the south-east part of this parish, anciently part of the possessions of the family of Rokesle, by which it was held of the barony of Crevequer, by the tenure of performing ward to Dover castle. In the reign of Edward II., Sir Richard de Rokesle became by inheritance the owner of this estate, holding it by knight's service of the before-mentioned barony. He died without male issue, leaving by Joan, sister and heir of John de Criol, two daughters his coheirs, of whom Agnes, the eldest, married Thomas de Poynings, who entitled her husband to its possession, and he, in the reign of Edward III., obtained a charter of *free warren* for all his demesne lands in this manor of Westwood.

In his descendants it continued down to Robert de Poynings, who died in the reign of Henry VI. leaving two sons, of whom Richard, the eldest, died during his lifetime, leaving a daughter Eleanor, married to Sir Henry Percy, afterwards earl of Northumberland. Robert de Poynings, the younger son, became entitled to this manor, and was succeeded by his son and heir, Sir Edward, who was in great favor with both the kings Henry VII. and VIII. being lord warden of the Cinque Ports, and knight of the garter. He died in the latter reign, without any legitimate issue, or collateral kindred, when this manor became escheated to the crown, and was afterwards granted to Thomas Cromwell, earl of Essex. On his attainder and execution they reverted again to the crown, when the king granted this estate to John Limsey, to hold *in capite*, by knight's service. He died in the 38th year of that reign, when his son Edward, under Elizabeth, alienated the property to John Gerard, upon whose

death, his brother, Sir William Gerard, in 1607, succeeded to his estates. He also dying in 1625, his eldest son, Sir John Gerard inherited this manor, and ultimately his descendant Sir John Gerard, bart. dying in 1700, left an only daughter and heir, Mary, who carried this, with other estates in this county, in marriage to Montague Drake, esq. of Shardeloes in Amersham, Bucks. His grandson, William Drake, died possessed of this manor, with that adjoining of Ovens, leaving by Elizabeth, his wife, four sons and two daughters, in whose descendants this manor, and the rest of the estates in this county became vested.

A court-baron is held for this manor, which extends into the parishes of Faversham, Selling, Sheldwich, Ospringe, Badlesmere, Hernehill, Chilham, Charing, Ewell near Dover, as well as into the island of Harty.

Macknar, otherwise *Makenade*, is a manor at the eastern boundary of this parish, which was, at the time of the general survey of Domesday, part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Bayeux, under the general title of whose lands it was entered. On the disgrace of that prelate, Makenade was held by a family that resided here, and thence derived its surname. Peter de Makenade, in the reign of Edward II. left several children, and on the division of his inheritance, under Edward III., William de Makenade succeeded to this estate, who dying, his eldest son inherited this manor. William, his successor, departing this life without male issue, Constance, his only daughter and heir, carried the estate in marriage to John Watership, by whom she had two daughters, Margaret, married to Henry London, and Joan, to Thomas Mathew, the latter of whom, on the division of their inheritance, became possessed of this manor. His heirs sold it to one Bryanstone, when Thomas of that name, of Makenade, by will, vested it in feoffees, who settled the property on John Bryanstone, his son. By his heirs it was conveyed to Christopher Hales, gent. of Canterbury, under Henry VIII. after which it became the property of Thomas Colepeper, esq. of Bedgbury. He sold this manor to Randolph Johnson, gent. who died possessed of it in the reign of Elizabeth. His son, Ralph Johnson, by deed conveyed this estate to Martin James, gent.; and he, dying in 1592, was succeeded by his eldest son Henry, whose son, Sir Henry, in 1637, joined in settling it on his brother. Walter James, esq. of Maidstone, in the reign of

Charles II., conveyed it to Richard Garford, stationer, of London, who left an only daughter and heir, Mary; and she marrying, in 1670, George Villiers viscount Grandison, made a settlement of this manor upon Mary White, of Boughton Blean. The latter married Fleetwood Tildesley, gent. who alienated it to Edward Giles, yeoman of Gisborne, in Selling. He dying intestate, this manor descended to his two sons and coheirs, George and Edward, the latter of whom, in 1716, sold his moiety to his brother George, who died at Makenade in 1753, leaving an only daughter and heir, Mary, then widow of John Morgan, gent. of Faversham, whose son, Mr. George Morgan, afterwards rebuilt the house, and resided there.

Perry Court, called in Domesday *Perie*, is an estate in this parish, once forming part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Bayeux, upon whose disgrace it became confiscated to the crown, and was shortly after granted to the eminent family of the Crevequer's, who held it with other lands of the king *in capite*, by barony, by the service of maintaining soldiers for the defence of Dover castle. Of that line this manor was held by the same service by a family which thence took its name, Randal de Perie having held it as one knight's fee, in the reign of King John, as appears by the scutage then levied. William de Perie held it in the reign of Edward II. of Nicholas de Selling, and he of Hamo de Crevequer. John Perie, his descendant, afterwards possessed this property; but, in the reign of Edward III. it seems to have passed into other hands, as appears by the Book of Aid, the heirs of John de Barnett, William de Apulderfield, the lady Sawsamere, the heirs of Robert de Okmanton and their copartners, being charged for one knight's fee, which John de Perie before held in Pery, of Nicholas de Sellinge.

From the above entry it appears that this manor was then divided, and in the possession of different owners; but the manor of Perry itself, with the mansion and demesne lands round it, descended to Robert Barrett, esq. who died in the reign of Richard II. possessed of Perry court, and of lands likewise at Hawkhurst. He leaving two sons, Valentine and John, the latter, by marriage with Alice, sister and coheir to her brother, John de Belhouse, became possessed of Belhouse, in Essex, where his descendants continued for some generations, one of

whom, Edward Barrett, was created Lord Newbury in 1627, and dying in 1645, by will devised his estates to his kinsman Richard Lennard, who took the name and arms of Barrett. His grandfather, Henry Lennard lord Dacre, had married Chrysogona, granddaughter of Sir John Baker, of Sissinghurst, by Elizabeth, daughter and sole heir of Thomas Dynely of Wolverton, in Hampshire, and widow of George Barnett, the direct ancestor of Edward lord Newbury recently named. The abovementioned Thomas Dynely was descended from Robert, son of William Dynely, otherwise Dingley, of Wolverton, who lived afterwards at South Foscott, in Berkshire, which he possessed in right of his wife, Margaret, daughter and heir of a Foscott, by whom he had Robert, above mentioned, and Stephen, ancestor of the Dingley's, of Wolverton and Swaston, in the Isle of Wight; of whose descendants some notice has previously been taken under the account of Easling.

Richard Lennard, who assumed the name and arms of Barrett, was ancestor of the late Thomas Barrett lord Dacre, which family of the Baret's, Barrett's, or Barnett's, as this name is variously spelt, is of the greatest respectability in this county. The ancestor of that race is recorded in the roll of Battle Abbey as one of those warriors who came over with William duke of Normandy, and was present at the fatal battle of Hastings, in 1066; and his descendants afterwards spread themselves over most parts of Britain and Ireland. Valentine Barnett, of Perry court, bore for his arms *Argent, a fess dancette, gules in chief, three mullets, pierced sable.* His brother, John, bore *Barry of four piece argent and gules, counterchanged per pale,* which latter might, perhaps, have been the elder brother, since his heraldic bearings appear, by the ancient pedigrees, the same as those of his father and ancestors. To one or other of these shields, those of the several branches of the Barnett's, settled in different counties of England, seem in general to bear some allusion, viz. either *mullets with a chief, or, fess dancette,* or a *fess, or, bars counterchanged per pale,* as appears from the several books of heraldry, and different local histories, in most of which some mention is made of the name of Barnett, or Barrett; and in the British Museum, among the Harleian MSS., there exist many pedigrees of this family.

Valentine Barnett, eldest son of Robert, as before mentioned,

inherited Perry court, where he resided, and dying in 1440, under Henry VI. was buried in the chancel of Preston church, where his effigy, in brass, habited in armour, having his sword, and wearing his spurs, still remain; as does that of Cicele, his wife, who died two years afterwards. She was the youngest daughter of Marcellus ate Lese, and coheir to her uncle, Sir Richard ate Lese, of Lees court. Their only daughter and heiress, Joan, married John Darell, esq. of Calehill, of whom she was the first wife. Their grandson, Sir John Darell, left two sons, Sir James and John, gent. who divided this estate, when the latter, in the reign of Henry VIII. alienated his part to Stephen Jennins. He conveyed it to Thomas Michell, who, two years afterwards, disposed of the property to Robert Dokket; when, in the 10th year of the above reign, it was conveyed to Allan Percy. By the latter it was sold to Richard Parke, esq. of Malmains, in Stoke, who having purchased the other moiety of Sir James Darell, became the sole proprietor of this manor, which his daughter, Elizabeth, subsequently carried in marriage to John Roper, esq. of Linsted. Lord Teynham, in the reign of Elizabeth, settled this property on his son, Christopher Roper, esq. and he afterwards alienated it to William Finch, esq. of Sewards, in Linsted; who dying without issue male, his only daughter and heir carried it in marriage to Sir Drue Drury, gentleman usher of the privy chamber to Queen Elizabeth. In the reign of James I. he alienated this estate to Thomas Barrett, whose eldest son, Richard, of Kew, in Surrey, left an only daughter, who conveyed it in marriage to Sir Henry Capel, second son of Lord Arthur Capel. She surviving him, possessed this estate, which had then forfeited the repute of being a manor; and on her demise, in 1721, held the property, leaving no issue, when, by her will, she devised this estate, under the description of her farm and lands, called Parry, otherwise Perry court, with the lands belonging to the same, in Preston and the adjoining parishes, to trustees, for the benefit of twelve charity schools, in several different counties, of which Faversham was one. By that bequest, the clear profits were to be paid by her trustees and their heirs, annually, in equal proportions, according to the rules and directions set down in her will, the money to be paid in the chapel at Kew green, where she expired.

There was a family, of the name of Hart, settled in this parish

as early as the reign of Edward III., one of whom, Thomas le Hert, appears to have been mayor of Faversham in the 2d year of that reign, and whose arms are appendant to a deed preserved in the Surrenden library.

PRESTON HOUSE is a seat situated a short distance northward of the London road, and not far from the church. It formerly belonged to the family of the Finch's, descended from Vincent Herbert, otherwise Finch, of Netherfield, in Sussex, being a younger branch of those of Eastwell. They resided at this place in the reign of Elizabeth, and several of them lie buried in the church. About the latter end of the reign of Charles II. this seat, with the estate belonging thereto, were sold by one of that family to John Brinkhurst, esq. of Great Marlow, in Bucks, whose son alienated it to Onslow Burrish, esq. He sold it to Stephen Beckingham, esq. who continued in the possession of the farm, formerly part of the same. Preston house, however, with the garden and appurtenances, were sold by him to Thomas Dawes, esq. who afterwards resided here. On the demise of the latter, his only surviving son, Medley Darcy Dawes, and Sarah his sister, who had a life estate therein, together with Stephen Philpot, her husband, joined in the sale of this property, in the year 1769, to Thomas Smith, esq. who resided here. He left two sons, John and George Smith, the latter of whom sold it to John Bax, esq. of London, who pulled down the old mansion, and on the site, erected a large and handsome seat, where he afterwards resided. In 1790 he married Miss Jane Bonham, of Warley place, in Essex.

THE NOBLE FAMILY OF BOYLE was once seated in this parish, and, as we believe, at Preston house. Roger Boyle, second son of John Boyle, of Herefordshire, resided at Preston, and married Joan, daughter of John Naylor, gent. of Canterbury. He died here in 1576, and was interred in the high chancel of this church, to whose memory, and that of his descendants, a most sumptuous monument of statuary marble was erected, in 1629, by his second son, Richard Boyle, earl of Cork.

PRESTON is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Ospringe. The church, dedicated to St. Catherine, is small, consisting of one aisle and a chancel, with another chancel on the south side. There are some little remains of painted glass in the windows, and several

grave-stones, the brasses of all being gone, excepting those of Valentine Barrett, and Cicele his wife, under the date 1440. Another also exists to William Mareys, an esquire to Henry V., A.D. 1470; and another to Emmola Lee, in 1440. At the east end of the aisle is a monument, presenting the effigies, kneeling at a desk, of Thomas Finch, esq., and Maicott his wife. He died in 1615, and her grave-stone, with figures in brass, is near the same, she died in 1612, this monument having been erected by John Finch, his nephew, of Grovehurst. On a large handsome tomb, on the south side of the high chancel, in full proportion, lie the effigies of Roger Boyle, esq. and his wife, Joan, whose remains were interred near it. At the east end is a figure of a bishop in his robes, kneeling, being that of his eldest son, Dr. John Boyle, bishop of Cork, Cloyne, and Ross, in Ireland. At the west end is the figure of his second son, Sir Richard Boyle, earl of Cork, kneeling in his robes, who was born at Canterbury in 1566; and on the other parts of the tomb are inscriptions for many more of his family, who were also buried here.

The descendants of that family were afterwards ennobled by the several titles of earls of Burlington, Cork, and Orrery, viscounts Carleton and Boyle of Kinelmeaky, and lords Carleton and Clifford. Michael, next brother to Roger, was first of London, and subsequently resided at Canterbury, as two of his children were born within the precincts of the cathedral church. This monument was, some years ago, in a most ruinous state, the decayed fragments both of figures and inscriptions, lying scattered about, and, if not repaired, threatened very shortly to be beyond the power of art to restore. On the opposite side is a mural monument, for Silvester, wife of John Borough, esq. eldest daughter of Robert Denne, gent. of Denne hill, obt. 1609; and in the chapel, on the south side of the church, are several memorials of the Hulse's, of Chartham. At the east end of the vicarage house, adjoining the churchyard, was a small chapel, now converted into part of the dwelling-house; in the east widdow of which were painted the figures of St. Anthony, with his pig, and St. Catherine; under whom was a portraiture of a vicar, of Preston, habited in a purple cope, and kneeling, with a label from his mouth, whereon appeared these words, *Virgo Katharina preccantibus esto benigna:* and beneath him, *Dus Johns Sturrey, vicarius de Preston.* Above the figures of the

two saints, were the armorial bearings of Archbishop Arundel, and of the Dryland's.

This church was once part of the ancient possessions of the see of Canterbury, and so remained till Archbishop Stratford, in the reign of Edward III. exchanged it, together with that of Boughton under Blean, with the abbot and convent of Faversham, for the manor of Tring, in Hertfordshire. Subsequently the archbishop appropriated this church to that abbey, with a reservation of the advowson of the vicarage, and a large portion of the great tithes of Makenade and Westwood farms, towards the endowment of the same, and a pension from its proceeds, of two marks and a half sterling yearly, to the sacrist of Christ church, towards the repair of the church there, which was afterwards confirmed by a bull of Pope Boniface I.

In this state the church remained till the dissolution of the abbey, in the reign of Henry VIII., when, devolving to the king, he settled it on his new founded dean and chapter of Canterbury, where it continued. It was valued in the king's books at £8 12 6, the yearly tenths being 17s. 3d., and was of the yearly certified value of £77 17 11. In 1640 it was estimated at £70, the communicants being sixty.

In 1821 there were sixty-six dwellings in the parish of Preston; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 168, females 183, making a total of 351 souls.

GOODNESTON lies the next parish eastward from *Preston*, and is the last to be described in this hundred. It appears, from its name, to have once belonged to Godwin earl of Kent, being termed, in ancient records, *Goodwinstone*, that is GODWIN'S TOWN or village.

It is a very small parish, on the north side of the London road, about half a mile distant from the forty-eighth milestone. The village and church stand in the centre of the parish, which does not extend more than half a mile from either each way. The country is low and flat, and, from being exposed to the marshes, extremely unhealthy; the lands are rich and fertile, the fields large and level, with few trees and hedge-rows, there being no woodland.

THIS PLACE was held, in the reign of Henry III. by Simon de Turville, of the Earl of Leicester, as lord paramount, who likewise held it of the king *in capite* by knight's service. Of his successor, Nicholas de Turville, this estate was again held, in the reign of Edward II., by one of the family of Chiche, which had been seated at the Dongeon, in Canterbury, for some generations, and in that city they were eminently distinguished, being possessed of the fee of the aldermanry of Burgate.

In the reign of Edward III., Thomas Chiche, of the Dongeon, paid respective aid for the manor of Goodnestone, then held by knight's service. Thomas Chiche, his son, was sheriff of Kent in the reign of Richard II. being grandfather of Valentine Chiche, esq. of the Dongeon, who left three daughters his coheirs; Margaret, married to Clovill, of Essex, and secondly to John Judde, of Tunbridge; Emelyn, to Sir Thomas Kempe; and another, to a Martyn; who, on the demise of their father, were jointly entitled to this manor. The two former alienated their interest therein, about the beginning of the reign of Henry VIII. to one Oxenbridge, and the latter to a person named Pordage, of Rodmersham. Soon after which, the whole property, excepting the third part of the advowson of the church of Goodneston, seems to have become vested in the name of Finch. John Finch, in the reign of Elizabeth, levied a fine, and passed this estate away to Mr. Robert Fagge, descended from the Fagge's, of Willesborough, in which parish they had held lands as early as the reign of Edward III. He died possessed of this manor, and was succeeded by his son, Edward Fagge, gent. of Faversham, who died in 1618, leaving one son, Michael, who was killed in the Dutch wars; and two daughters: Mary, married to Sir Edward Patrick, of Bridge; and Anne, to Sir John Proude. The former died without issue, and the latter left, by Sir John, (who was killed at the siege of Groll,) one son, Edward, and a daughter, Anne, who, on the death of her brother, without issue, succeeded to this manor. Many of the family lie buried in St. Alphages's church, in Canterbury, in which parish they resided for many generations.

Anne Proude married first Sir William Springate, and secondly Mr. Isaac Pennington, eldest son of Sir Isaac Pennington, lord mayor of London in 1643, having been a famous republican, who, in her right, became possessed of this manor, which con-

tinued in his descendants till Mr. Pennington, of Philadelphia, became entitled to the same. He conveyed this property by sale, about the year 1748, to Michael Lade, gent. of Canterbury, descended from a family that spelled their name both Lad and Ladd, and was of great antiquity in this county, possessing lands therein as early as the reign of Edward I. Under Edward IV. a branch of this family was settled at Elham, one of whom, John, of that place, died in 1527, whose youngest son, Thomas, settled at Barham, where many of his descendants lie buried. His grandson, Vincent Lad, for so he spelled his name, died in 1625, leaving several sons, when Robert, the eldest, first altered it to Lade; he was of Gray's Inn, a barrister at law, and recorder of Canterbury, to whom Segar, garter, granted the arms of *Argent, a fess wavy, between three escallops sable.* He was ancestor of the Lade's, of Boughton; Thomas, a younger son, having been progenitor of the Lade's, of Warbleton, in Sussex, from whom sprang Sir John Lade, created a baronet in 1730.

Michael Lade, the purchaser of this estate, as before mentioned, afterwards retired to Faversham, where he died in 1778, and was buried in Boughton Blean church. He left two sons; John, of whom more will be said hereafter; and Michael, barrister at law, who married Sophia lady dowager Cranston; and one daughter, Elizabeth, married to Mr. Benjamin Browne. John Lade, esq. of Boughton Blean and Canterbury, succeeded to the manor of Goodneston, and married Hester, sole daughter and heir of Mr. Hills Hobday, gent. of Faversham, when she dying in 1778, he had by her three sons and one daughter.

A court-baron is held for this manor.

GOODNESTONE is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Ospringe. The church, dedicated to St. Bartholomew, consists of one aisle and a chancel; and, in the porch, lies buried William Benet, rector of this church, who died in 1490.

It appears, from the Tower records of 1279, in the reign of Edward I., that Richard le Dagh, and Eleanor his wife, sold their lands here, with the advowson of the church, to Stephen Chiche, citizen, of Canterbury, with a portion of Blean wood, and some land near it.

This church is a rectory, and was a discharged living in the king's books, of the clear yearly value of £30, the yearly tenths

being 10s. 3d. In 1578 there were thirty-three communicants; and in 1640 only twenty-four, the value then being £40 per annum.

In 1821, there were thirteen dwellings in the parish of Goodneston; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 37, females 29, making a total of 66 souls.

An acre of land, called the *church acre*, belongs to this church, but it is not known by whom the same was given.

The Island and Parish of Harty are within this *hundred of Faversham*, but, as that district lies so contiguous, and may be ranked as a part of the Island of Shepey, we reserve the description of the same, until we treat of the latter island.

The Borough of Rhode, or Rode, in the parish of *Boughton Blean*, is also in the hundred of Faversham, but will be found described at p. 567 in this volume, under the head of the above Hundred of Boughton under Blean.

THE HUNDRED OF TENHAM.

THIS HUNDRED CONTAINS WITHIN ITS BOUNDARIES THE PARISHES OF TENHAM, LINSTED, AND DODDINGTON; with *the churches of those parishes,* as well as a small part of the parishes of *Hedcorne, Iwade,* and *Eastchurch;* the churches of which are in other hundreds. *Two constables* have *jurisdiction* over this district.

TENHAM, called, in Saxon, *Teynham,* and now frequently so written, is the next parish, south-eastward, from Bapchild, and confers its name upon the hundred in which it is situated.

The manor, which comprehends the hundred of Tenham, was given by Cenulf king of Mercia, at the request of Archbishop Athelard, to the metropolitan church of our Saviour, at Canterbury, who conferred this gift chiefly on account of the archbishop having given him, in recompense, twelve plough lands lying at Cregesemeline, which King Offa had formerly bestowed upon one of his earls, named, Uffa, free from all secular service, except the repairing of bridges and building of castles. The above place, called Creges Emeline, has been understood to mean the *fleet, or pool of water,* between the islands of Emley and Harty, in Shepey, now called Crogs-depe, which water parts the royalty of the Swale, between Tenham and Faversham; and also serves as the bounds of the hundreds of Middleton and Faversham.

This manor continued part of the possessions of the church of Canterbury when Archbishop Lanfranc came to the see, in the year 1070, being the 5th of William the Conqueror's reign; and upon the division, which he soon afterwards made of the revenues of the church, between himself and his convent, Tenham was allotted to the archbishop and his successors, for their provision and maintenance.

The succeeding archbishops so far improved the buildings of

this manor house, as to render it perfectly convenient for their frequent residence.

Archbishop Hubert Walter proved a most magnificent prelate, the expense of whose establishment was esteemed nearly equal to that of the king. He resided mostly at Tenham, where he died in the year 1205, and his body being removed from this place, was interred in his own cathedral, at Canterbury.

Archbishop Boniface, in the 44th year of Henry III., A.D. 1259, obtained both a market and fair for his manor of Tenham, the former weekly, and the latter to continue for three days annually, on the feast of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary.

Archbishop Walter Reynold was resident here in the beginning of the winter of the year 1325, one of his instruments being dated from hence. Archbishop John Stratford, who filled the see in the reign of Edward III. entertained that prince at Tenham, in the month of February, A.D. 1345, several of his letters patent bearing date from this place, at the period in question.

The Manor of Tenham remained part of the possessions of the see of Canterbury, as far as we can learn, till the reign of Elizabeth, when it was exchanged with the crown for other premises. It so continued till James I. granted it to John Roper, esq., of the adjoining parish of Linsted, whom he afterwards knighted and created Lord Teynham: and in his successors, the lords Teynham, the property of this manor remained down to the Right Hon. Henry Roper, twelfth lord Teynham. A court-baron is held for this manor.

There are several different customs of the tenants of this manor, principally in the Weald, mentioned in Somners's gavelkind.

Frogenhall, usually called Frognall, is a manor, situated near the marshes, in the western part of this parish, about half a mile northward of the great London road. It is frequently written, in ancient records and deeds, *Frogenhall Valence*, by which name Leland distinguishes it in his Itinerary, styling it, in the margin, *Frogenhale Valaunce*, when he states, "*The manor* of Frogenhale, communely called Frogenolle, joinith to the quarteres of Thong castelle, in Kent, by Sidingburne, and is of a xlvl. rent by yere. Of this very auncient house was a knight, that did great feates in France, and is written of Fro-

genhalle that is now, was sunne to one of the Sainct John's doughters, the best of that stokke; and this Sainct John, of Bedforde, or Northamptonshir, had vi. or vii. doughters, that after were very welle maried." By this addition, it appears to have once belonged to the respectable family of Valence, or *De Valentia,* two of whom were successively earls of Pembroke, from the reign of Henry III. to that of Edward II., when the line became extinct. In the reign of Edward III. it was in the possession of a family to which it gave both name and residence, for Richard de Frogenhall resided here, and died possessed of this estate in the 33d year of that reign; whose descendants bore for their arms *Argent, three bars sable,* which blazonings still remain in the windows of the chancel appertaining to the Frognall's, in this church, and are also carved in stone on the roofing of Canterbury cloisters. It so continued down to Thomas Frogenhall, who leaving no male issue by Joan his wife, daughter and heir of William de Apulderfield, his daughter and heir, Anne, carried this manor in marriage to Thomas Quadring, of London; who leaving also one daughter, Joan, she entitled her husband, Richard Dryland, of Cooksditch, in Faversham, to the possession of the same. By Joan, the issue of his first wife, for by his second he also appears to have had children, he had one daughter, Catherine, who became heir to her mother's inheritance, and espousing Reginald Norton, esq. of Lees court, in Sheldwich, he became, in her right, possessed of this property towards the close of the reign of Henry VII. His son, Sir John Norton, of Northwood, appears to have disposed of this manor to Sir Thomas Wyatt, who, in the 33d year of Henry VIII. passed away this manor of Frogynhale Valence, with other property, to that monarch, (who appears to have possessed it two years previous,) in exchange for other manors and lands, pursuant to an Act passed for that purpose the year before.

This estate did not long continue vested in the crown, as the king, in his 37th year, granted it to Thomas Green, to hold *in capite* by knight's service. He was commonly called Thomas Norton, otherwise Green, being a natural son of Sir John Norton, previously mentioned, who formerly held this manor. He died in the 6th of Edward VI. leaving two sons; Norton Green, who left an only daughter, married to Sir Mark Ive, of Essex; and Robert Green, gent. of Bobbing, whose descend-

ants settled in Ireland. Upon his demise, this manor passed to his eldest son, Norton Green; and again, by the union of his daughter to Sir Mark Ive, who owned the property under James I. This manor was soon after alienated to Ralph Clerke, esq., who resided at Frognall, where he died in 1619, and was buried in this church. His son, Ralph, in the reign of Charles I. was firmly attached to that king's interests, for which he suffered the forfeiture of his estates, being declared by Parliament to have been guilty of treason against the state. At the Restoration, he was again put into possession of the same, when this manor continued in his descendants until the 9th year of the reign of Anne, when George Clerke, the then owner, having obtained an Act for that purpose, sold it to Mr. Joseph Taylor, merchant, of London. He, by his will, devised it to his nephew, Joseph Taylor, of Sandford, near Great Tew, in Oxfordshire, who died possessed of the same in 1733, having, by will, given it to his brother, William Taylor, esq.; whose eldest son, James Taylor, esq. of Sandford, was subsequently owner of this property. There is no court held for this manor.

Archbishop Hubert Walter, who enjoyed the see of Canterbury at the latter end of the reign of Richard I. and the commencement of that of King John, in his general confirmation of the possessions of St. Gregory's priory, at Canterbury, confirmed to it *the tenth of wine* at Tenham; a kind of donation which appears, by others of the like nature conferred upon other religious houses, to have been esteemed, at that time, of no small value.

Tenham Outlands, otherwise New Gardens, is an estate in this parish, adjoining the north side of the London road, at Green street, which was part of the demesne lands of the manor of Tenham, in the possession of the Roper's, lords Teynham; but, in 1714, it was alienated from that family and became the property of Sir Robert Furnese, bart. of Waldershare. It then descended, in the same line as his other estates in this county, (as will be seen at large under Waldershare,) to his daughter, by his second wife, Catherine, countess of Rockingham, who remarried Francis North, earl of Guildford, by whom she had no issue, and dying in 1766, gave, by her will, all her estates to him and his grandson, the Right Hon. George Augustus, earl of Guildford, who afterwards possessed them.

On the southern side of the London road, and at the south-east boundary of this parish, adjoining to Norton, is a small hamlet of houses, called Lewson Street, in which there is a capital messuage, called Lewson house, which was formerly the estate and residence of a branch of the family of Adye, several of their armorial bearings and intermarriages, in painted glass, having still remained in the windows of this mansion some years back. Nicholas Adye, esq. resided here in the reign of James I. on whose death the property went to his three daughters, Sarah, wife of John Kennet, and Anne and Martha, who, in 1638, alienated this estate, by a joint conveyance, to Mr. James Tong; from which name it passed by sale, in 1670, to Sir James Bunce, bart. of Kemsing. His eldest surviving son, Sir James Bunce, also of Kemsing, alienated it, in 1714, to Mr. Joseph Hasted, gent. of Chartham, whose grandson, Edward Hasted, esq. of Canterbury, sold it, in 1787, to Henry Prat, esq. of Harbledown. He died in 1794, leaving one daughter, Mary, who afterwards married John Scott, esq. of Newry, in the kingdom of Ireland; and his widow surviving, he devised it to her for life, and afterwards to his said daughter; when they sold the same to Mr. Walker, of Sittingbourn, who afterwards possessed this property.

The lower side of the hamlet of Green Street, at the forty-third milestone, on the high London road, is within this parish, the whole of which, excepting the small part at the south-east corner, which reaches Norton, lies on the northern side of the road. About a mile northward of Green Street, on a small rise, is the church; and, a little below, the village of Tenham, near which are the marshes, extending to the waters of the Swale, forming the boundaries of this parish in that direction. On a small creek, in these marshes, is Conyer's Key, much used for the shipping of corn and goods from this part of the county; near which there is an oil-mill, formerly the property of one Best. The air of this place is very unhealthy, from being situated contiguous to the marshes, so that the inhabitants are constantly afflicted with the ague, as well as intermittent fevers, and are in general very shortlived; which circumstance has given rise to the well-known proverb in this part of the county:

"He that will not live long,
Let him dwell at Murston, Tenham, or Tong."

This district is situated in a fine level country, the fields being large, and the land exceedingly rich and fertile, like most of the neighbouring parishes in this extensive vale, abounding mostly in what is called in these parts, *round tilt land,* such as will be described in the adjoining parishes of Bapchild and Tong. It was formerly famous for large growths of fruit-trees, but these have been removed to make way for hops, of which there are several very fine plantations. Lambarde says, that this parish, with thirty others, lying on either side of the great road from Rainham to Blean wood, were, in his time, *the cherry garden and apple orchard of Kent;* and such they undoubtedly continued, observes Hasted, until within memory. Tenham, says the first-mentioned writer, was the parent whence the other plantations issued; for Richard Hayns, fruiterer to Henry VIII. having observed that those plants which had been brought over by our Norman ancestors, had lost their excellence by length of time, and conceiving our soil and climate were perfectly adequate to produce good fruits, determined to try a plantation: for that purpose, he, in 1533, obtained 105 acres of rich land, then called *the Brennet;* and having, with great cost and labour, procured plants from abroad, he furnished this ground with the same in rows, in the most beautiful order. These fruits consisted of the sweet cherry, called the Kentish cherry; the temperate pippin, for the same reason called the Kentish pippin; and the golden rennet; which species, especially the first and last, have been long propagated, from the above, in great quantities, throughout the southern parts of this kingdom; but the Kentish pippin is now scarcely ever to be met with, even in this county.

In the year 1771, a commission of sewers passed the great seal for the levels of Tenham, Tong, and Luddenham, which has since, in the usual course of such commissions, been renewed.

Near the high London road, on the left hand, about a quarter of a mile eastward from Green street, is a field, called Sandoun, which is encompassed by a bank, whence it rises to a hill, on the summit of which is a small coppice of wood, wherein is a *tumulus,* or barrow, which, from the hollowness, seems to have been plundered of its contents: it was the opinion of Dr. Plot, that this work was thrown up by the Romans. At a small dis-

tance, westward, is a green and hamlet of houses, called Barrow green, most probably from the above circumstance.

The Parish of Tenham or Teynham confers the title of baron to the Roper's, lords Teynham, whose ancestor, Sir John Roper, was created lord Teynham, baron Teynham, by patent, on July 9, in the 14th year of James I. A.D. 1616; a full account of which will be given in the description of their seat at Lodge, in the parish of Linsted.

Tenham is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Ospringe. The church is large, and dedicated to St. Mary, being built in the form of a cross, and consists of three aisles, a high, and north, and south, chancel, with a square tower at the west end, in which are four bells. In the south cross or chancel, called the Frognal chancel, from belonging to that manor, several of the family of that name lie buried. Over John Frogenhall, who died in 1444, there was formerly a brass remaining, with his figure in armour; and several of the Clerk's, owners of this manor, are also here interred. The north chancel is called the Hinkley chancel, from a family of that name, one of whom, John Hencliff, of Tenham, died in 1463, possessed of an estate in this parish, called Jonathan's garden, which he devised to his two sons, on condition that they should glaze a long window in the north head of this church. In this chancel is a stone, with an inscription and figure of a man in brass, to commemorate William Wreke, who died in 1533. There is also a memorial for John Sutton, vicar, A.D. 1468; as well as for Robert Heyward, A.D. 1509. Weever says there was a memorial in this church for William Mareys, and Joan his wife, but it has long been obliterated. There are remains of good painted glass in the windows, several of which contain fine Gothic canopies of richly coloured glass, the same having, no doubt, formerly contained figures of equal beauty beneath. In the south window of the high chancel, is the portrait of a girl, habited in blue vestments, kneeling and pointing to a book, which is held by a man, who likewise points to it; and at the bottom was an inscription, of which the only words remaining are, *Sedis aplce pthonotarii.* In the north chancel are windows near the vestry, the one containing a figure in an episcopal habit, mitred, &c. with these arms, *per*

pale and fess, counterchanged, azure and argent. Archbishop Stephen Langton, A.D. 1227, in consequence of the slender income of the archdeaconry of Canterbury, and the affection he bore towards his brother Simon Langton, then archdeacon, united thereto the churches of Hackington, otherwise St. Stephen's, and Tenham; with the chapelries of Doddington, Linsted, Stone, and Twade, which churches were then under the patronage of the archbishop. This gift was confirmed by the chapter of the priory of Christ church, immediately afterwards, at which period this church was let out to farm at 100 marks, and so continued, the archdeacon of Canterbury being the patron and appropriator of the same.

The chapels above mentioned, all belonging to the archdeaconry, have long since, with the exception of the chapel of Stone, become independent parish-churches, and as such, not subject to any jurisdiction of the church of Tenham.

In the 8th year of Richard II., A.D. 1384, this church was valued at £133 6 8, and subsequently at £200, the yearly rental to the archdeacon being £35.

It is a vicarage, and was estimated in the king's books at £10, the yearly tenths being £1, and is of the certified annual value of £63 13 4. In 1640 the rental was £60, and the communicants 100.

This vicarage was augmented in the yearly sum of £10, by lease, in 1672, between archdeacon Parker, and Sir William Hugesson, of Linsted, lessee of the parsonage.

The family of Furnese afterwards became lessees of the parsonage, Henry Furnese, esq. having sold it to Henry, late Lord Teynham, who in 1754 alienated his interest therein to Mr. Kempe, in whose family it continued.

There was a chantry in this church, which was suppressed, among other endowments of the same kind, by the Acts of Henry VIII. and Edward VI.; and, in the 2d year of the latter reign, a survey was returned, whereby it appeared that the land belonging to this church lay in Frogenhall manor, then the property of Thomas Green, and that the total yearly value of the same was only 18s. 8d.

In 1821 there were 100 dwellings in the parish of Tenham; and at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants

were as follow: males 309, females 291, making a total of 600 souls.

Linsted is the next parish southward from Tenham, and adjoins the high London road at the forty-third milestone, at Green street, the south side of which is within its bounds, the ground hence rising towards the south to the village, which, with the church, is situated near the centre of the district, being much more pleasant than healthy, especially in the lower parts. The lands under the village are very fertile, and resemble the soil of those of Tenham, before described, being interspersed throughout by several hop plantations. Southward of the village, the land lying still higher, approaches the chalk, becoming stony, consequently much less fertile, till it unites with Doddington, its southern boundary, not far from which district is Linsted lodge, a fine old mansion of the period of James I. not very pleasantly situated, in a low part of the park, which no longer ranks as such, having for many years been let out in farms. On the west side is a seat called *Dadmans*, formerly Dodmannys, so called from a family of that name. It was, in the reign of Henry VII. in the possession of William Apulderfield, of Faversham. The fee of this property has for many years belonged to the Roper's, lords Teynham, and was occupied by the Hon. Philip Roper, uncle to Lord Teynham. A little below Dadmans is another estate called *Bumpit*, also belonging to Lord Teynham. On the opposite, or north-west part of the parish, close to the south side of the high London road, near Radfield, is an estate called *Claxfield*, formerly the residence of the family of the Greenstreet's, the members of which were possessed of many good estates in this part of the county, for several generations. It afterwards became the property of Mr. George Smith, whose daughter, Jane, sold it to John Sawbridge, esq. of Ollantigh, and his son, Samuel Elias Sawbridge, esq. afterwards owned the same.

About half a mile from the London road, beyond Green street, at the north-east corner of the parish, is a house called *Nowdes*, which also belonged to the family of the Greenstreet's, in which it continued till Peter Greenstreet, in 1703, alienated it to Mr. John Smith, gent. whose daughter having married T. Barling, gent. he resided here, and died in 1770, leaving two sons, John

Smith, to whom his grandfather, Mr. John Smith, bequeathed this seat, and Philip, of London, surgeon. John Smith Barling, gent. on his father's death, took possession of this property, in the mansion of which he frequently resided. He died in 1795, leaving a son and two daughters, one of whom married Mr. Lushington Taylor, of Rodmersham, when they became jointly entitled to this property.

Bartholomew Fowle, otherwise Linsted, was a native of this place, and the last prior of St. Mary Overies, London, having been elected to that office, A.D. 1513. He was a very learned man, and author of a work entitled *De Ponte Londini.*

Some years back *a large chesnut tree* was felled in Lodge park, which being sawed off close to the ground, in the centre, where the saw had crossed, appeared a cavity of about two inches diameter, wherein was found a *live toad,* which entirely filled up the space. The wood of the tree was, to all appearance, perfectly sound throughout, having no aperture whatsoever, the trunk itself measuring six feet in circumference.

The Manor *of the hundred of Tenham* claims over this parish, subordinate to which is the Manor of Badmangore, with the Manors of Lodge and Newnham united, the former of which, though but little known at present, either by name or situation, was in early times eminent from having had successively for its proprietors the Cheney and Apulderfield families, of very high repute in this county.

Sir Alexander de Cheney, of Patrixborne, the seat of this family, where they had been settled for some generations, was one of those Kentish gentlemen who followed King Edward I. in his victorious expedition into Scotland, and at the battle of Carlaverock was knighted by the king, with many other gentlemen of this county. His son, William de Cheney, died possessed of the manor of Badmangore, in the reign of Edward III. having married Margaret, daughter and heir of Sir Robert de Shurland, in whose right he became entitled to the manor of Shurland, with many other estates in this county. His son, Sir Robert Cheney, sold Badmangore, in the 27th year of that reign, to William de Apulderfield, who made it his principal residence. He was descended from Henry de Apulderfield, of Apulderfield, in Cowdham, who, with his son Henry, was with Richard I. at the siege of Acre, in Palestine, and for their

bravery had granted to them an augmentation to their armorial bearings, viz. *sable a cross, or, voided of the field;* their original arms having been *ermine a fess vaire, or, and gules.* His great grandson, Sir William de Apulderfield, was a man of considerable notoriety in the reigns of Henry VI. and Edward IV. He left an only daughter, Elizabeth, who became his heir to this manor, among the rest of his estates, which she carried in marriage to Sir John Fineux, chief justice of the King's Bench in the reigns of Henry VII. and VIII. He died in the 17th year of the latter monarch, A.D. 1525, leaving two daughters his coheirs, Jane, married to John Roper, esq. of Eltham, and Mildred, to James Diggs, esq. of Barham.

The origin of the family of the Roper's will be fully treated of under the head of Eltham, where the elder branch long flourished, and the descent of the family brought down to the above-mentioned John Roper, esq.

On the division of their inheritance, this manor, among others, was allotted to John Roper, esq. in right of his wife. He was prothonotary of the King's Bench, and attorney general to Henry VIII., and died in 1524, at his manor of Welhall, in Eltham, to which he had removed from St. Dunstan's, the ancient seat of the family. He left two sons, William Roper, esq. clerk of the King's Bench, who succeeded him at Eltham; and Christopher, ancestor of the lords Teynham; and also six daughters.

Christopher, the second son, succeeded his father in the manor of Badmangore and its appendages, at the mansion-house of which he resided. It stood on the east side of the park, but, on the family removing, was suffered to decay and run to ruin. By Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Christopher Blore, esq. of Rainham, he had several children, of whom John Roper, the eldest, succeeded him in this manor. He was knighted, in 1616, by James I.; and, on the same day, created lord Teynham, baron Teynham, in this county, as a reward for his former attachment to the king's interest, having been the first man of note who proclaimed that monarch in this county. He built the present seat of Linsted lodge, enclosing a park round the same, and died in 1618, when he was buried in the vault which he had constructed, in the south chancel of this church.

His descendants, lords Teynham, continued to reside at

Linsted lodge, all of whom lie buried in this church, down to Christopher lord Teynham, the fifth in succession, who in 1637 was constituted lord lieutenant and custos rotulorum of this county. He died at Brussels the following year, having married Elizabeth, daughter of Francis Browne viscount Montague, by whom he had several sons and daughters. Of the former, John, Christopher, and Henry, became all three successively Lords Teynham, the latter succeeding to the title and estate, on the death of his two elder brothers, unmarried, when he became the eighth Lord Teynham. He died in 1716, leaving by his first wife two sons, Philip and Henry, successively Lords Teynham, and by his third wife, the Lady Anne, daughter and coheir of Thomas Lennard, earl of Sussex. He likewise left issue, who, in right of their mother, (she having been the widow of Lord Dacre, became entitled to the fee barony of Dacre.) He was succeeded by his eldest son, Philip, lord Teynham, who died unmarried, in 1727, upon which the title and estate devolved to his next and only brother, Henry lord Teynham, who left by his first wife, Catherine, five sons and two daughters, of whom Henry, the eldest, on his demise in 1781, succeeded him as Lord Teynham. He married, first, Mary Wilhelmina, eldest daughter of Sir Francis Head, bart. and died in 1786, when he was succeeded by his eldest son, Henry, being the twelfth lord in succession from the first grant of this title. He never resided at the lodge, which was for many years occupied by different tenants, and the largest part of the park converted into farms of arable land. He continued the proprietor of these estates, with Colyers and Newnham farm, and many others in this parish, having borne for his arms, *party per fess azure and or, a pale and three roebucks' heads erased, counterchanged;* for his crest, on a *wreath, a lion rampant, sable, holding a ducal coronet between his paws, or;* and for supporters, *on the dexter side a buck, or; on the sinister a tyger, reguardant, argent.* He also quarters the several coats of Apledore, St. Laurence, Tattersal, Apulderfield, *the same for service*, Twite, Parke, and Hugdon, as appeared by a pedigree in the possession of Edward Roper, esq. of Wilhall, in Eltham, attested and collected by John Philipott, Somerset herald in 1629.

Sewards is a manor, having had an ancient seat in this parish, and in very early times was the residence of a family of that

name, in which it continued till about the reign of Henry V. when Richard Seward leaving an only daughter and heir, Elizabeth, she carried it in marriage to John Finch, esq. second son of Vincent Herbert, otherwise Finch, of Netterfield, in Sussex. His eldest son, William Herbert, or Finch, was ancestor of the Finch's, earls of Winchelsea and Nottingham, and others of that name, ennobled at different periods, all of whom bore the same arms.

John Finch, esq. died possessed of Sewards in 1442, in the reign of Henry VI. and was interred at Sevington, whose grandson John was also of Sewards, and left two sons, Herbert of Linsted, from whom descended the Finch's of Linsted, Norton, Faversham, and Wye, as well as other younger branches of that name; and Thomas Finch, the second son, of Kingsdown, from whom descended those of that parish, and of Stalisfield.

Herbert Finch, the eldest son, became possessed of Sewards on his father's death, and from him it descended to William Finch, esq. who dying without issue male, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, his only daughter and heir, Catherine, carried it in marriage to Sir Drue Drury, gentleman usher of the privy chamber, the fifth son of Sir Robert Drury, of Edgerly, in Bucks, who built a large and handsome seat in this parish, where he resided. His son, Sir Drue Drury, in the reign of Charles I. alienated this manor to Mr. James Hugesson, merchant, of Dover, who died in 1646, and was buried in the chapel on the north side of the chancel of this church, which has continued the burial place of his descendants.

He left six sons and one daughter, of whom William, the eldest, succeeded him in this seat, and John, the second, who was a merchant of Dover, where a branch of this family remained many years after. Subsequent to the restoration of Charles II. William Hugesson, the eldest son, removed his residence to Provender, in the adjoining parish of Norton, where he kept his shrievalty in 1671, and in the same year was knighted. The mansion was then pulled down, but the site remained the property of his descendants down to William Western Hugesson, esq. of Provender, whose two surviving daughters and coheirs, one marrying Edward Knatchbull, esq. and the other as before mentioned, in another part of this history, to Sir Joseph Banks, bart. and privy counsellor, they entitled their respective

husbands to the possession of the same; the garden walls, and some remains of the mansion having existed a few years back.

The Manor and Mansion of Sewards, which is a large building, was alienated by Sir Drue Drury's heirs, about the year 1670, to William Finch, esq. but whether he was a descendant of the former owners of that name, we have not ascertained. He died possessed of this property, as appears from the court rolls of Tenham manor, in 1672; and his heir, in 1677, alienated it to Mr. John George, in which name it continued till, by Jane George, a female heir, it passed in marriage to Vincent Underdowne, gent. of Dover. The latter becoming greatly in arrears, in consequence of his being a distributor of stamps *an extent* was issued from the Exchequer, when this estate continued till the year 1773 in the hands of government. All his debts being then paid, it was ordered by a decree of the court, that the estate should be sold to satisfy the costs and expenses which had accrued from the proceedings, when it was purchased soon after by Mr. John Smith Barling, of Faversham. He died in 1795, leaving one son and two daughters, who became entitled to the same.

Henry Eve, D.D. vicar of this parish, and of Tenham, died in 1685, possessed of a capital house called *Edwards*, in Linsted, where he resided; the heirs of whose grandson, of the same name, some years after, sold it to John Sympson, esq. of Canterbury, whose widow possessed it, and after her death it went to Mr. Baptist Sympson. Nothing is now remaining of the structure but a mean cottage.

Linsted is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Ospringe. The church, which stands on the south side of the village, is dedicated to Sts. Peter and Paul, being a handsome building; consisting of three aisles and three chancels. The steeple, which is a spired shaft, covered with shingles, stands at the north-west corner. William Apulderfield, of Faversham, was a great benefactor to this edifice, as by his will, dated 1487, he directed his wife to repair the buttresses of the wall of the churchyard, on the east side, and new shingle the chapel of Our Lady, in the church. In the *Hugesson chancel* are several brass plates and monuments for that family; there is also one for William Western Hugesson, esq. obt. 1764, æt. 29, and for his widow, A.D. 1774, æt. 39.

Against the south pillar is a tablet, bearing an inscription for Rodulph Wecherlin, esq. of Champion court, obt. 1667. In the vault beneath lies his widow, who had remarried Gideon Delaune, esq. obt. 1719. A monument also, on the north side of the chanel, commemorates Catherine, wife of Sir Drue Drury, obt. 1601. In the *Teynham chancel* are monuments for John Roper, first lord Teynham, obt. 1618; and for Christopher lord Teynham, obt. 1622; but there exist no others, or even gravestones, for that family. In the *high chancel* is a brass plate for John Aiscough, esq. justice of the peace in the reign of Elizabeth, obt. 1601; another for John Worley, gent. of Skuddington, in Tong, obt. 1621, as well as his wife. In the east window, in a pane of glass, of a lozenge form, is delineated the figure of a venerable old man, bearded, wearing purple robes, and sitting in a gilt chair, holding a book open upon his right hand, from which he looks forward, as if in the act of speaking, or of exhortation.

The church of Linsted was anciently esteemed a chapel to the church of Tenham, as appears by the black book of the archdeacon of Canterbury; and was given and appropriated, with that church and its appendages, in 1227, by Archbishop Stephen Langton, to that archdeaconry. It has now long been independent of the church of Tenham; and still continues appropriated to the archdeacon.

It is a vicarage, and was valued in the king's books at £8 3 11½, and of the yearly certified value of £70 12 4, the annual tenths being 16s. 4½d. In 1640 the estimate was £100, the communicants being 235.

Dr. Samuel Parker, archdeacon of Canterbury, at the instance of Archbishop Sancroft, by lease, in the reign of Charles II., reserved the additional pension of £10 yearly to the vicar of Linsted and his successors. It pays no procuration to the archdeacon.

In 1821 there were 139 dwellings in the parish of Linsted; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 455, females 435, making a total of 890 souls.

Adjoining the parish of Linsted, to the south-east, is

the parish of DODDINGTON, called in the record of Domesday *Dodeham*.

This parish is about two miles across either way, and lies, for the most part, on the hills, near the high road leading from Faversham, through Newnham valley, over Hollingborne hill, towards Maidstone. It is a poor but healthy situation, being much exposed to the cold bleak winds, which blow along the valley; at the eastern extremity of which the village is situated, containing a good house, called WHITEMANS, which formerly belonged to the family of Adye, and afterwards to that of Eve, of whom it was purchased by the Rev. Francis Dodsworth, who nearly rebuilt the mansion, and resided there. Upon the northern hill, just above the village, is the church; and close to the same, the vicarage, being a neat modern house, about a mile eastward, almost surrounded with wood; while, just above the village of Newnham, is the mansion of Sharsted, occupying a gloomy and retired situation.

Being within the hundred of Tenham, the whole of this parish is *subordinate* to that manor.

At the time of taking the above record, which was A.D. 1080, this place constituted part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Bayeux, upon whose disgrace, the estate became confiscated to the crown. A portion of the above property was, most probably, part of THE MANOR OF SHARSTED, or, as it was anciently called, *Sahersted*, the seat of which, called *Sharsted Court*, is situated on the hill, just above the village of Newnham, though within the bounds of this parish.

This manor gave both residence and name to a family who possessed it in very early times, as Sir Simon de Sharsted died possessed of the same in the reign of Edward I., then holding it of the king, of the barony of Crevequer, and by the service of part of a knight's fee and suit to the court of Leeds.

Richard de Sharsted lies buried in this church, in the chapel belonging to the manor. Robert de Sharsted died possessed of the property in the reign of Edward III. leaving an only daughter and heir, married to John de Bourne, whose family had been possessed of lands in this parish for some generations. In his descendants this estate continued down to Bartholomew Bourne, who resided there in the reign of Henry VI.; and in his descendants, resident at Sharsted, this estate continued down to James

Bourne, esq. who, in the reign of Charles I., alienated Sharsted to Mr. Abraham Delaune, merchant, of London.

He resided at Sharsted, in which property he was succeeded by his eldest son, Sir William Delaune, who, dying in 1667, was interred in Doddington church. William Delaune, esq. succeeded his father, being knight of the shire for this county, who died in 1739, having married Anne, widow of Arthur Swift, esq.; upon which, the estate passed, by the entail in his will, to his nephew, Gideon Thornicroft, son of his sister, Mary. The latter gentleman possessed this estate but a short time, and dying in 1742, being the last in the entail, he devised it by will to his mother, Mrs. Mary Thornicroft, who left it to her two maiden daughters, Dorcas and Anne, together with her other estates, excepting Churchill farm, in Doddington, which she gave to her second daughter, Elizabeth, who had married George Neville, lord Abergavenny; when the last mentioned lady, by a deed of gift during her life, bestowed it upon her son, Alured Pink, esq. who afterwards owned the same.

The above-mentioned two maiden sisters possessed Sharsted till the death of Mrs. Dorcas Thornicroft, in 1759, when she by will devised her moiety, with the rest of her estates, (except the Grange, in Gillingham,) to her sister, Mrs. Anne Thornicroft, for life, with remainder in tail to her nephew, Alured Pink, barrister at law, son of Lady Abergavenny by her second husband, Alured Pink, esq. also a barrister, who married Mary, daughter of Thomas Faunce, esq. of Sutton at Hone, by whom he had one son, Thomas. He afterwards resided at and possessed this estate. A court-baron is held for this manor.

Downe Court is a manor in this parish, situated on the hill, about half a mile north-westward of the church. In the reign of Edward I. it was in the possession of William de Dodington, who did homage to Archbishop Peckham for this manor, as part of a knight's fee, held of him by the description of certain lands in Doddington, called *Le Downe*. His descendant, Simon de Dodington, paid aid for it in the reign of Edward III.; and from him it passed into the family of Bourne, of Bishopsbourne, whose ancestors were undoubtedly possessed of lands in this parish as early as the reign of Henry III., for Archbishop Boniface, who came to the see of Canterbury in the above reign, granted to Henry de Bourne one yoke of land in the parish of

Dudingtune, belonging to this manor of Tenham, which land he held in *gavel-kind*, to him and his heirs, of the archbishop and his successors, by the service of part of a knight's fee, and by rent to the manor of Tenham.

His descendant, John de Bourne, lived in the reign of Edward I., and obtained a charter of *free warren* for his lands in Bourne, Higham, and Doddington; after which he was sheriff in the 22d and two succeeding years, as he was subsequently in the 5th of Edward III. His son, John de Bourne, married the daughter and heir of Robert de Sharsted, whereby he also became possessed of that manor; and in his descendants Down Court continued till about the close of the reign of Henry VI. It was then alienated to Dungate, of Dungate street, in Kingsdown, the last of which name leaving an only daughter, she conveyed the same in marriage to a Killigrew, who, at the commencement of the reign of Henry VIII. left also two daughters and coheirs; one married Roydon, and the other Cowland, who, in right of their respective wives, possessed this property in equal shares. At the end of the above reign, the latter alienated his portion to John Adye, gent. of Greet, in this parish, a seat where his ancestors had been residents since the reign of Edward III. He was a descendant of John de Greet, of Greet, in this parish, who lived there in the 25th of the above reign. His grandson, son of Walter, lived there under Henry V. and assumed the name of Adye. This family bore for their arms *Azure, a fess dancette, or, between three cherubins' heads, argent crined of the second;* which coat was confirmed by Sir John Segar, garter, in the 11th of James I. to John Adye, esq. of Doddington, son and heir of John Adye, esq. of Sittingbourne, and heir of John Adye, who purchased the moiety of this manor, as above-mentioned.

He held this moiety of Downe Court on his father's death, being resident at Sittingbourne, and died the 9th of May, 1612, aged sixty-six, and was interred in Doddington church, leaving issue by his wife, Thomasine, daughter of Richard Day, gent. of Tring, in Hertfordshire, one son, John, and five daughters.

John Adye, esq. grandson of John, the first purchaser, at length succeeded to this moiety of Downe Court, and there resided; during which period, he purchased of the heirs of Allen the remaining moiety, one of that name having become possessed of the same by sale from the executors of Cowland, who,

by his will, dated 1540, had directed it to be sold for the liquidation of debts and legacies. He died possessing the whole of this manor and estate in 1660, and was interred in Nutsted church, of which manor he was owner. By his first wife he left many children; of whom, John, the eldest, died. Edward, his second, was of Barham, in the reign of Charles II., under the description of which parish more will be found respecting him and his descendants, as well as of Nicholas, the third son. By his second wife he had Solomon, who was of East Shelve, in Lenham; and other children.

Nicholas Adye, esq. the third son, succeeded to Downe Court, and espoused Jane, daughter of Edward Desbouverie, esq. Their eldest son, John, succeeded to this manor, where he resided until his removal to Bekesborne, at the close of the reign of Charles II., at which period he alienated this property to the Creed's, of Charing; in which name it continued vested until sold to Bryan Bentham, esq. of Sheerness, who devised the property to his eldest son, Edward Bentham, esq. of the navy office, who bore for their arms *Quarterly, argent and gules, a cross flory counterchanged; in the first and fourth quarters, a rose, gules, seeded, or, barbed vert; in the second and third quarters, a sun in its glory, or;* being the arms given by Queen Elizabeth to Thomas Bentham, D.D. bishop of Litchfield, on his being presented to that see, in 1559. Since his demise, this estate, by his will, became vested in trustees, to fulfil the different assignments contained therein.

Doddington is within the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the *diocese* of Canterbury and *deanery* of Ospringe. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, consists of a body and chancel, with a chapel or chantry on the south side, belonging to the Sharsted estate; and at the west end, is a low pointed steeple, which, about the year 1650, was destroyed by lightning. In the church are memorials for the Swalman's; the Nicholson's, of Homestall: and the Norton's; and in the south or Sharsted chancel, is a black marble, of an antique form; and on a fillet of brass, round the verge of the same, in old French capitals, *Hic Jacet, Ricardus de Saherstada*, with other letters, now illegible: there are also memorials for the Bourne's and the Delaune's.

The church of Doddington was anciently esteemed as a chapel to that of Tenham, as appears by the black book of the arch-

deacon, having been given and appropriated, with that church and its appendages, in 1227, by Archbishop Stephen Langton, to the archdeaconry. It has long since been independent of the church of Tenham, and still belongs to the archdeacon, who is likewise patron of the vicarage.

Richard Wethersted, who succeeded Archbishop Langton in 1229, confirmed the gift of master Girard, who, while he was rector of the church of Tenham, granted, to the chapel of Dudintune, that the tithes of twenty acres of the affart of Pidinge should be taken for the use of this chapel for ever, to be expended at the disposition of the curate, and two or three parishioners of credit, for the reparation of the books, vestments, and ornaments necessary to the chapel. This living was valued in the king's books at £15, the yearly tenths being £1 10; but at the visitation of Archdeacon Harpsfield, in 1557, this vicarage was returned to be of the value of £12.

In 1569, at the visitation of Archbishop Parker, it was returned that the chapel of Doddington used to be let to farm for £40, and sometimes less; and that there were 113 communicants. In 1640, the vicarage was valued at £30, the communicants then being 107.

Archdeacon Parker, at the instance of Archbishop Sancroft, by lease, in the reign of Charles II., reserved an additional pension of £10 per annum to the vicar. It pays no procuration to the archdeacon, and has since ranked as a discharged living in the king's books.

In 1821 there were sixty-eight dwellings in the parish of Doddington; and, at the same period, when the last census of the population was taken by order of Parliament, the numbers of inhabitants were as follow: males 237, females 214, making a total of 451 souls.

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